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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Nakayama: Tokyo To Lift RSA Sanctions in Jun

OW1005060191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0543 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Japan plans to lift sanctions against South Africa [Republic of South Africa—RSA] as early as June in light of the country's move to scrap apartheid, government officials said Friday.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told reporters the government will make a decision on the matter at an appropriate time and in consideration of the situation in South Africa.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said Japan will study phasing out its economic sanctions against South Africa in line with other countries if its apartheid laws are totally repealed.

South African President F.W. de Klerk has proposed to eliminate all race-segregating laws by the end of June.

Japan will lift sanctions against South Africa only after all political prisoners are released and the three main apartheid laws are abolished, government officials said.

Japan and South Africa established consulate generals in each other's country in 1952 but do not have formal diplomatic ties.

The European Community (EC) agreed April 15 to lift its sanctions in recognition of the move to dismantle apartheid, ending bans on importing iron, steel, and gold coins.

A mission of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) visited the white minority-ruled country in April to study whether Japan can lift its sanctions.

Japan joined the United States and EC members in sanctions against South Africa in 1985, banning all direct investment by Japanese companies and limiting cultural, sports, and tourism exchanges.

Other sanctions include a ban on imports of South African iron and steel, exports of computers to apartheid-implementing agencies, direct air links, and arms imports.

Japan emerged as South Africa's largest trading partner in 1987 but has dropped behind the former West Germany and other countries since then.

The consulate general in Pretoria estimated trade between the two countries at 3.3 billion dollars last year, making Japan South Africa's fifth largest trading partner.

PRC Foreign Minister To Visit 'Late' Jun

OW1005111191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will visit Japan in late June for talks with Japanese leaders, a top Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

Qian last came to Japan accompanying Premier Li Peng in April 1989, two months before the military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement at Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

He will meet Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to discuss strengthening bilateral ties, the official said, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity.

The two foreign ministers also will discuss solving the 12-year civil war in Cambodia, he said.

Foreign Minister To Visit Vietnam, Indonesia

OW0905162591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will visit Vietnam and Indonesia from June 10 to 15 as part of Japan's efforts to help resolve the 12-year-old Cambodian conflict, government sources said Thursday.

Nakayama will be the first Japanese foreign minister to visit Vietnam since the country was reunified in 1976.

The foreign minister will visit Hanoi from June 10 to 12 for talks with communist party leader Nguyen Van Linh and Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The sources said Nakayama will convey Tokyo's readiness to provide aid for the development of offshore oil resources around the Tongking Gulf area.

Nakayama is also scheduled to visit Ho Chi Minh City on June 12, they said.

In Jakarta, Nakayama plans to meet Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas to discuss the Cambodian problem, the sources said.

Belgian Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

OW0805123991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Belgian Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens arrived here Wednesday for a three-day visit to Japan as a guest of the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

During his stay in Japan, Eyskens will hold talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, as well as his counterpart Taro Nakayama, Foreign Ministry officials said.

They said he is also scheduled to meet with Emperor Akihito.

Supports EC Summit Proposal

OW0905140391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1322 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Belgian Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens threw his support Thursday behind a Japanese proposal for annual summit-level talks between Japan and the European Community (EC), Foreign Ministry officials said.

Eyskens, who arrived Wednesday for a three-day official visit, made the statement in talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, officials said.

Japan hopes to set up regular annual summit talks between the Japanese prime minister and two EC leaders—the president of the EC Commission and the leader of the country then chairing the EC's own summit conference.

The summits would help to formalize the Japanese-EC relationship, often seen as the "weak link" in the trilateral ties among the United States, Japan and Western Europe, officials said.

Eyskens was also quoted as supporting Japan's call for Japan and the EC to issue a joint statement patterned after a document signed by the United States and the EC last November.

The statement would call for the setting up of a new summit forum, strengthened dialogue on political and economic affairs, promotion of free trade, establishment of a stable international monetary system, increased assistance to the Third World, environmental protection, and defense of democratic and humanitarian values.

Officials said the ideas will be further developed when Jacques Delors, president of the EC Commission, visits Tokyo from May 22 to 25, and when Nakayama goes to Luxembourg on June 7 for talks with his EC counterparts from Luxembourg, Italy and the Netherlands.

Sources said the joint Japanese-EC statement could be issued during Nakayama's visit to Luxembourg.

The Belgian foreign minister was also quoted as backing Japan's candidacy for one of the 10 nonpermanent seats on the 15-seat United Nations Security Council. Japan aims to occupy a seat reserved for Asian countries from 1992 to 1993.

Nakayama, meanwhile, said Japan puts great emphasis on consolidating its ties with the EC as it moves toward a single European market next year, to be followed by monetary and political integration.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told Eyskens in an earlier meeting that Southeast Asian countries are concerned over the prospect that EC integration could lead to closed markets. Kaifu returned May 6 from a trip to Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore, Thailand and The Philippines.

Eyskens also met Thursday with Eiichi Nakao, minister of international trade and industry.

On Friday, he will be received in audience by Emperor Akihito and give a press conference before leaving Japan.

To Support Japanese UNSC Bid

OW1005114591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Belgium will support Japan's candidacy for one of the 10 nonpermanent seats on the United Nations Security Council [UNSC], Belgian Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens said here Friday.

"We have great esteem for the constructive approach developed by the Japanese Government as far as foreign policy is concerned, and the role Japan is playing in the region and worldwide," he said.

Eyskens, speaking at a press conference at the end of a three-day official visit to Japan, said "I think it is a contribution to a more balanced world situation, and in that perspective we are willing to support the candidacy of Japan in the Security Council."

Eyskens said if elected, Japan's membership of the Council would overlap Belgium's current period of membership which ends late 1992. Japan aims to occupy a seat reserved for Asian countries from 1992 to 1993.

The foreign minister reported Belgium had tabled an arms export control proposal in the Security Council. "I hope that next year, when we are members of the Security Council together, that we will find the ways and means to promote these ideas among the other members of the council," he said.

Eyskens also predicted Japan and the EC will sign a joint statement, possibly at the London summit of the seven major economic powers in July.

The statement will be patterned after a document signed by the United States and the EC last November, he said.

It will cover a number of issues, including the setting up of a new summit forum, strengthened dialogue on political and economic affairs, promotion of free trade, environmental protection, and defense of democratic and humanitarian values.

Eyskens said that Belgium favored total liberalization of the car market in the European Community (EC) after a much shorter period of transition with a higher quota of Japanese cars than currently accepted in the EC.

He said Belgium's nonnationalistic investment policy had resulted in attracting 250 multinational companies to set up headquarters in the country. He said 200 Japanese enterprises and groups now operate in Belgium.

A bilateral trade imbalance in Japan's favor had shrunk to 31 billion Belgian francs in 1990 from 56 billion in 1987, but this trend now appears to have halted and shows signs of reversing, he said.

"We need to develop a bilateral policy of industrial cooperation to promote especially Japanese investment in Europe and Belgium."

During his visit, Eyskens met with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and Emperor Akihito.

Spokesman Remarks on Aid, Situation in SFRY

OW1005091691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0845 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Japan may have to halt its technical cooperation with Yugoslavia if ethnic turmoil in that country continues to escalate, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Taizo Watanabe also told foreign correspondents that Japan feels "concern and apprehension" over the worsening ethnic unrest in Yugoslavia.

He called on the central and local authorities there to refrain from violence in maintaining peace and order.

Yugoslav authorities should "recognize the seriousness of the situation and make tenacious efforts for the solution of the various problems through peaceful and democratic means," Watanabe said.

The spokesman warned that Japan's technical assistance to Yugoslavia, which takes the form of accepting business and industrial trainees in Japan, may be halted if the East European country's "unity is in jeopardy."

He noted that Japan has been intending to triple the number of Yugoslav trainees invited to Japan but said continued turmoil could "disrupt liaison work."

Yugoslav federal authorities Thursday granted the country's Armed Forces the authority to quell unrest between Croats and Serbs in the Republic of Croatia.

DSP Chairman Ouchi Continues U.S. Visit

OW1005020091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0053 GMT 10 May 91

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, May 9 KYODO—Deputy U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Atwood on Thursday expressed concern about the continued Soviet military capability in the Far East and told visiting Japanese politicians that Japan needs to beef up its defense capability.

Atwood made the comment to Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and other DSP politicians, but stopped short of saying whether Japan should buy more AWACS, refueling aircraft, or Aegis surface-to-air weapon systems from the U.S.

The DSP delegation met Atwood who was acting defense secretary while Dick Cheney was on a trip to the Middle East. Ouchi's visit to Washington was the first by a DSP chairman in eight years.

Ouchi, briefing reporters on his Pentagon meeting with Atwood, said, "The U.S. position is that it is up to Japan to decide how many AWACS, refueling aircraft, and Aegis units it will possess."

Ouchi quoted Atwood as telling his mission that concern over the Soviet nuclear arsenal has not diminished in the Far East despite the receding likelihood of military conflict in Europe.

The Pentagon official predicted that regional conflicts similar to the Persian Gulf war will increase in the Third World, Ouchi said, adding that Atwood also reported no tangible progress in conventional and strategic arms reduction talks with the Soviets.

Ouchi said Atwood dismissed a Soviet proposal for a new Asian security dialogue involving the U.S., the Soviet Union, Japan, China, and India.

Vice President Dan Quayle and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger also expressed opposition in their separate talks with the Ouchi delegation to the Soviet proposal made by President Mikhail Gorbachev during his Tokyo visit last month.

Atwood also told Ouchi that the U.S. has no intention of reducing its naval strength in the Asia-Pacific region.

Asked by Ouchi about North Korea's alleged efforts to produce nuclear weapons, Atwood said the nuclear issue is not an isolated case but is a common problem in "unstable governments."

Atwood called on Japan to cooperate with the U.S. and other industrialized countries in preventing technology transfers and applying pressure on Pyongyang to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect its nuclear plants.

Official Reports to Okinawa Governor on Talks

OW1005030991 Naha NHK Television Network in Japanese 0315 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Vice Governor Nakaima, who travelled to Tokyo to present Okinawa's views in connection with the question of the prefecture's acting for the national government in the circulation and public perusal of documents relating to forcible lease of land for U.S. military use, returned to Okinawa last night. He informed Governor Ota today that it would be difficult to seek any immediate commitment from the government on the realization of a system of diversified use of returned military land, which will facilitate the return of U.S. bases, and which was the condition posed by the prefecture for undertaking the administrative procedure.

Vice Governor Nakaima went to Tokyo on 6 May to present Okinawa's views on the issue. He met and presented the prefecture's views to Director General Kodama of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency, Director General Tani of the Okinawa Development Agency, leading members of the Liberal Democratic Party, and Diet members hailing from Okinawa, and returned to Naha on the last flight from Tokyo last night. He reported the national government's reaction and assessment of the situation to Governor Ota today. According to his report, the government is not yet fully aware of the necessity of implementing a system of utilizing returned military land, including planned return of the bases and guarantee for appropriate compensation for the landowners after the return of land, which is the condition Okinawa poses for undertaking the circulation and public perusal of U.S. military land documents; and it would take time to make the government fully grasp the significance of this Okinawan demand.

Governor Ota had originally planned to travel to Tokyo to notify the government of his final decision on the matter after hearing Vice Governor Nakaima report. He has decided to put off his trip to Tokyo, saying that after hearing Vice Governor Nakaima's report today, there are still some points which need to be settled. It is believed that he wants to feel out the government's response for a few days. It is now possible that Governor Ota's final decision on the issue will be put off until next week.

Figures Given on Nongovernmental Aid

OW1005022991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0130 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Japan gave some 296 million yen worth of grants in fiscal 1990 that ended March 31 to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) overseas, Foreign Ministy officials said Friday.

The money was paid from the governmental NGO fund in 92 disbursements to various groups in 44 countries. It included 5.66 million yen to groups fighting against apartheid and to improve their social status in South Africa.

Established in fiscal 1989, the fund disburses an average of 5 million yen per case in response to requests from such groups, mainly in developing nations, the officials said.

Kaifu Address LDP Members at Reform Meeting

OW0905082291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0757 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said on Thursday that he is determined to carry out political reform as promised.

Kaifu made the remark in his address to about 200 ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) members at the joint meeting of the party's Political and Election Reform Councils.

Kaifu, who is also president of the LDP, said he hopes to work out political reform bills as early as possible for presentation to the Diet.

Masayoshi Ito, head of the Political Reform Council, urged the government to open an extraordinary Diet session as soon as possible to deliberate election reform bills after the party compiles a framework for the bills.

But, LDP members opposing political reform told the prime minister that an introduction of a small electorate constituency system for House of Representative elections would prevent new candidates and junior parliamentarians from running in those elections.

The members said it is an illusion that parties will make policy debates in election campaigns if the small electorate constituency system is introduced.

Japan currently has a medium-sized electoral system in the lower house elections where two or three candidates are elected in each constituency.

Further on Meeting

OW0905135091 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 9 May 91 Evening Edition p 1

[Text] The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] held a joint meeting of the Political Reform Headquarters (leader: Masayoshi Ito) and the Election System Research Council (chairman: Tsutomu Hata) on the morning of 9 May. The party has started to coordinate its members' opinions on political reform because of the need to work out the outline of political reform bills, such as an election system reform bill, by the end of this month.

At the joint meeting, a conflict arose between those who stressed a deep-rooted opposition to the introduction of single-seat constituencies for the House of Representatives and those who urged an early opening of an extraordinary Diet session to promote political reform. Debates between the two groups ended in a rupture. In the closing address, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu called for the party members' understanding and cooperation, stressing: "Since the party has made a commitment to the public for political reform, I want to work out tangible plans as early as possible in order to present them to the Diet." He also said that he would "work on the issue with an indomitable resolve."

The joint meeting was attended by about 200 LDP members as well as four top party leaders, including Prime Minister Kaifu and Secretary General Obuchi. In the beginning, Political Reform Headquarters Leader Ito described the schedule to work out reform plans, and said: "An extraordinary Diet session should be opened as soon as possible." Following Ito, Kaifu indicated his intention to carry out political reform, saying: "I would like to express my devotion (to political reform)."

However, the attendants felt that the prime minister was "inarticulate" in his "declaration of resolve." Attendants opposing political reform strongly urged Kaifu to clarify the responsibility of the prime minister (concurrently LDP president) in case the reform results in a failure. Several pro-reform members also asked: "Do you really intend to open an extraordinary Diet session to promote the political reform? Let us see your resolve definitively."

In response to the question concerning his responsibility, Prime Minister Kaifu stated: "I will make a decision on my course of action when I fail in reaching an agreement with opposition parties." He then again stressed his "indomitable resolve."

SDPJ Groups Urge Early Leadership Reshuffle

OW0805151891 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] The Social Democratic Forum, a group within the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] formed by middle-of-the-road members, held a general meeting today. With respect to the party executives' responsibility for the election defeat, the participants agreed that a party convention should be held as soon as possible to reshuffle the party's leadership.

Meanwhile, the New Wave Group, which was formed by newly elected SDPJ dietmen, presented a proposal to Chairperson Doi this evening. In the proposal, the group members demanded that the SDPJ choose its election candidates from not only inside the party but also from outside it. They also called for an early party convention in order to reshuffle the party's leadership.

SDPJ's Doi Stresses Intention to Stay in Office

OW0805150791 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Takako Doi, chairperson of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], has indicated her intention to stay in office for the time being by making a commitment to carry out party reform. In connection with party executives' responsibility for the party's defeat in the nationwide local elections last month, Doi said that she was ready to do her best for party reform and renovation through any means at the risk of her political career.

[Begin Doi recording] I feel that I am the very person who should take responsibility for the public's severe judgment. On the other hand, quite frankly, I have been asking myself if my resignation due to public judgment can really be the answer to our supporters. I have also been asking myself if a reshuffle of party executives can really be considered a party reform.

At the risk of my political career, I would like to continue with my present duties. I am ready to do my best for party reform and renovation through any means. [end recording]

Official on Tight Monetary Policy, Land Prices

OW0905125691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1209 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—The government will stick to its tight monetary policy to burst more speculative "bubble" in the land market, a high-ranking official of the finance ministry said Thursday.

"The bubble hasn't been completely burst," the official said, referring to the run-up of asset prices in the go-go years of the 1980s.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the government told other Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations at their recent meeting in Washington that Japan will give high priority to checking the country's astronomic land prices so that its 10-year public works plan can be smoothly fulfilled.

Washington showed understanding toward the Japanese stance, the official said.

In last year's talks with the United States aimed at redressing barriers to trade and investment in both nations, Japan pledged to spend 430 trillion yen on public works over the next decade, causing some concern that such a massive investment could be inflationary.

The official also expressed displeasure over a dispute with the U.S. over Japan's pledged 9 billion dollar contribution to the cost of the Persian Gulf war.

"It is a meaningless dispute and might be detrimental to Japan's financial aid policy in the future," he said.

Washington has urged Japan to pay the full 9 billion dollars pledged. Tokyo paid a somewhat smaller amount, saying it had budgeted the payment in yen terms and noting that the subsequent rise in the dollar's value had decreased the value of the contribution in dollar terms.

Bank Report Suggests Intake of Foreign Workers

OW1005125791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1029 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO— Japan should consider intake of foreign workers and make good use of aged people to ease chronic manpower shortages and ensure inflation-free growth, the Bank of Japan [BOJ] said in a report released Friday.

Looking at the foreign labor issue for the first time from a macroeconomic viewpoint, the central bank report said it is inevitable that the economy increasingly suffers from a lack of labor force as the shrinkage of working population continues.

The report comes amid growing calls from small- and medium-sized companies that they be allowed to hire foreign workers because of difficulties finding sufficient domestic personnel for their businesses. The government has stuck to its ban on unskilled foreign workers on the grounds of labor security.

Assessing the current economic expansion, the BOJ report said tightness in the labor market is more severe than in any past expansionary period and singled out the nonmanufacturing and assembly sectors as areas facing the most serious manpower shortages.

It also pointed to difficulties facing companies in finding specialists and engineers as well as manual laborers.

These developments, the report said, are encouraging Japanese firms to step up labor-saving investment, employ more female workers, and make better use of aged workers so as to maintain their work forces.

The report said the manpower shortage has positive aspects, citing the investment in labor-saving methods and equipment and rationalization that helps spur economic growth and an increase in personal consumption through wage hikes.

But it warned that the problem with manpower supplies will likely hamper economic growth as the supply of laborers, particularly young ones, tapers off owing to the declning birth rate and cuts in working hours.

USSR Makes Largest Construction Equipment Order

OW1005071191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0515 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—The Soviet Union has ordered 122 hydraulic shovels, worth 4.2 billion yen, to be supplied by top Japanese maker Hitachi Construction Machinery Co., an official of Mitsui and Co. said Friday.

The official said the order, clinched through Mitsui and Co., a major Japanese trading house, is the largest ever placed by the Soviets for construction equipment, and was made by the Ministry for Oil and Gas Construction Industry.

The shovels will be paid for by a Hungarian state-run trading house, Chemokomplex, which in return will receive natural gas from the Soviet Union, the official said.

Under the yen-based contract, shipments of 40-ton hydraulic shovels and related equipment will start in September and will be completed by the end of the year.

Chemokomplex has already opened a letter of credit to cover the entire payment, the official said.

The shovel will be used in a number of projects, including development of an oil field and building new natural gas pipelines to East European nations, he said.

The deal is based on a 1985 agreement between Moscow and Budapest aimed at developing energy in the Soviet Union. Industry sources said political upheaval in Hungary has hindered large-scale deals until now.

The outstanding sum of 500 million dollars for Japanese exports to the Soviet Union has also been a big obstacle to Japan-Soviet trade, the sources said.

They said exports to the Soviet Union are expected to revive, with third countries providing payment in return for natural gas.

Airlines Permitted To Hire Foreign Planes, Crew

OW0905205191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 (KYODO)—The Transport Ministry has decided to permit Japanese airlines to charter both planes and crew from foreign airlines for international routes, officials said Thursday.

Japan Airlines Co. (JAL) is the first to apply for approval of a charter plan under the new policy.

JAL is expected to get formal permission soon to charter about four cargo planes equipped with crew from Oregon-based Evergreen International for four trans-Pacific routes, including Tokyo- Anchorage-New York, and on two Hong Kong routes.

Under the plan, 12 to 15 of JAL's 21-25 weekly trans-Pacific cargo flights will be conducted using Evergreen planes and crew.

JAL has sought planes and crew from Evergreen to meet the increasing demand for international cargo transportation and a pilot shortage.

The ministry has so far permitted domestic airlines to charter planes and crew from other Japanese firms, but not from foreign companies.

FTC Imposes Fines on 3 Companies for Bid-Rigging

OW1005110291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0638 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Kyowa Densetsu Kaisha Ltd., one of 12 companies accused of bid-rigging on business contracts at U.S. military bases in Japan, responded angrily Friday to the 275 million yen fine imposed on it and two other companies by Japan's Fair Trade Commission (FTC).

Company officials said the FTC's decision is unfair and without warrant. Contracts were won on a competitive basis and not from informal discussions held among different contractors, they added.

The FTC imposed the fine on Kyowa Densetsu, NEC Information Technologies (NEC-IT) Ltd., and Daimei Telecom Engineering Corp. on Thursday for violating the Antimonopoly Law, after the U.S. Justice Department accused the companies of fixing bids on 27 telecommunication contracts at military bases between 1981 and 1988.

The other companies alleged to be involved are Nippon Comsys Corp., Toyo Denki Tsushin Kogyo, Sanwa-Daiei Electric Construction, J-COS Corp., Shinko Tsushin Kensetsu, Ikeno Tsuken Co., Daiwa Tsushin Kensetsu, Daiko Denshi Tsushin, and Fujitsu Business Systems Ltd.

NEC-IT, a subsidiary of the giant NEC Corp., agreed Thursday to pay the U.S. Government 34 million dollars to settle claims "in principle" in connection with allegations it worked through a group called Kabuto Kai to ensure itself contracts.

Negotiations with the other Japanese companies are underway, according to U.S. officials.

NEC-IT officials said it would hold discussions with its lawyers before commenting on the FTC's decision.

The FTC has given the accused companies until May 30 to submit complaints about the U.S. allegations, commission officials said.

NEC said NEC-IT acted independently of the parent company, adding the whole affair is regrettable and it would inform all companies affiliated with the NEC group to properly follow its strict policies against bid-rigging on projects.

In the past, the U.S. Government and companies have attacked Japan's so-called "dango" practices—where firms informally agree among themselves on how to submit winning contracts.

The FTC and the U.S. department's actions come at a time when the U.S. and Japan are preparing to write a progress report on a 1990 agreement on the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII), which covers Japan's structural barriers to trade and investment.

Machinery Output Grows 6.1 Percent in 1990

OW0905115491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Production of machinery in Japan grew 6.1 percent in fiscal 1990 ended on March 31 from a year earlier to an estimated value of 87,429.6 billion yen, an industry organization said Thursday.

The Japan Machinery Federation credited the gain chiefly to strong capital spending by Japanese corporations amid brisk domestic demand, as well as to steady growth in exports.

The statistics are based on a survey conducted in February covering related trade associations.

Transport machinery led the way, with production rising 6.1 percent to 32,538.2 billion yen, larger than any other machinery category.

Among them, production of steel vessels posted a 16.7 percent gain due to revising demand, contributing to the overall growth in transport machinery output.

As for other categories, production was up 6.3 percent for general machinery, up 5.8 percent for electrical machinery, 6.2 percent for precision instruments, and up 6.2 percent for casting products.

Looking at fiscal 1991, the federation predicts machinery production will grow at a slower pace of 3.5 percent to 90,465.1 billion yen, but noted that the level of production will remain high.

Working Time Averages 2,044 Hours in FY 1990

OW0805120091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—The average Japanese employee worked 2,044 hours in fiscal 1990, which ended in March, down 32 hours from the year before, the Labor Ministry said Wednesday.

This was the third year in a row that working hours have dropped, the ministry said in a report.

The ministry has set a target of 1,800 annual average working hours by fiscal 1992, which ends in March 1993.

While working hours in Japan fell somewhat in fiscal 1990, the average worker still spent 200 to 400 more hours on the job than a U.S. or European worker, ministry officials said.

Time at work averaged 170.3 hours a month during fiscal 1990, down 1.3 percent from the year before, the report said.

March working hours averaged 168.2, down 3 percent from the year before.

Monthly wages, meanwhile, averaged 372,415 yen in fiscal 1990, up 4.6 percent in real terms, the ministry said.

The wage survey covered about 22 million employees at workplaces with 30 or more employees in mining, construction, manufacturing, power and gas, transportation and communications, commerce, finance, real estate, and services.

Salaried workers at workplaces with five or more employees in the same nine industries earned an average of 283,423 yen in monthly wages in March, up 4.5 percent over the year before in real terms.

Ministry officials attributed the growth in wages chiefly to Japan's business boom since late 1987.

University Develops Dioxin-Reducing Technology

OW0905025291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0211 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Kyoto, May 9 KYODO—A new technology to reduce by 90 percent the production of dioxin in the process of garbage incineration has been developed by the University of Kyoto and Takuma Co., an incinerator manufacturer, researchers said Thursday.

Dioxin is one of the most toxic chemicals known and is believed to cause cancer and birth defects. It is produced when various substances, including wood, paper, and plastic, are burned. The complete mechanism of how dioxin is produced is not yet known.

The joint-study team led by Masakatsu Muraoka, professor of hygiene engineering, succeeded in reducing the output of dioxin during incineration by improving the efficiency of combustion while dropping the incinerator temperature from 300 c to 220 c.

The researchers stepped up the burning efficiency by installing an air intake nozzle on the incinerator and enhancing the mixture of gases within the incinerator with other devices.

They claim to have proved a theory that the maximum amount of dioxin is produced when incompletely combusted gases combine with chlorine in the garbage at a temperature of 300 c.

The researchers said the newly established technology can be applied to about 1,900 garbage incinerators in operation nationwide.

Osaka-based Takuma Co. and the University of Kyoto have been researching and doing experiments on counter-pollution measures for–three years, using a 20-year-old incinerator of the Kyoto Municipal Government.

The joint team will unveil the new technology at a seminar on dioxin in urban garbage disposal to be held in Kyoto beginning next Tuesday.

A study group of Ehime University first found dioxin in the ashes of burned garbage in Japan in 1983.

During the Vietnam war, dioxin achieved notoriety as a component of Agent Orange, a defoliant widely used by the U.S. forces in Vietnam.

Toyota, Mazda Decide To Cut Exports to U.S.

OW0905143491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1343 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Toyota Motor Co. and Mazda Motor Co. have voluntarily decided to cut 20 percent of their original automobile export plans to the United States for the April-June period, following similar reductions in February and March, industry sources said Thursday.

According to the sources, both companies see that the current slump in the U.S. market for automobiles is quite serious, and that if they resume exports of vehicles to the country as planned it may lead to an inventory excess in the United States.

The two companies curbed auto exports to the United States in February and March, while the U.S. market was facing a decline in demand due to the Persian Gulf war.

With the new decision, the reduction in exports to the United States will take place for five consecutive months.

Depending on the U.S. market conditions, the export cuts may be extended for some time, the sources said.

Other Japanese automakers, including Nissan Motor Co., are also considering to follow suit, the sources said, as overall profits in Japan's auto industry may decline considerably this year.

Toyota officials said the company's passenger car export plan for the April-June period had been originally set at about 120,000 passenger cars, the same level as a year before.

But the company has already cut about 10,000 cars from its April export goal, and will continue to do so in May and June, making total export plan in the second quarter fall to the 90,000 car level, they said.

The U.S. automobile market has not shown a rapid recovery earlier expected after the Persian Gulf war ended, the officials said.

"We had expected a substantial recovery of the U.S. market to be seen by the middle of the year, but it seems now to be late," one of the officials added.

Mazda had planned to export about 40,000 cars to the United States during the April-June period, the same level as a year before.

But the company recorded a year-on-year 30 percent decline in April exports, more than it had anticipated, Mazda officials said.

They then revised their shipment plan during the second quarter to 31,500 cars, 8,500 less than the original plan.

The officials said they were concerned about the U.S. automobile industry with the so-called big three of General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co., and Chrysler Corp. doing badly.

The three firms recently reported the worst financial quarter in history for the January-March period this year, with Chrysler Corp. registering a 341-million-dollar loss.

U.S. car sales recorded a 0.5 percent decline in 1990 from the previous year to 9.3 million cars.

Sales continued to drop through this year because of the Gulf war, with sales in the first three months declining by 12 percent from a year earlier to 1.9 billion cars.

Sales in April worsened further to a year-on-year 14 percent decline to about 690,000 cars, according to the Japanese industry sources.

Nissan To Cut Auto Exports to U.S.

OW1005120591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Nissan Motor Co. Friday became the third Japanese carmaker to cut exports to the United States in the April-June period to cope with slumping U.S. auto sales.

Nissan said it is cutting its exports to the U.S. in the quarter by 10 percent from its original export plans.

Toyota Motor Corp. and Mazda Motor Co. earlier decided to cut 20 percent of their planned automobile export to the United States for the same period, following similar reductions in February and March.

Nissan, which originally planned to export 73,000 vehicles to the U.S. in the period, decided to reduce exports to between 65,000 and 66,000 vehicles, company officials said. Nissan in March reduced its exports to the U.S. 5,000 vehicles.

Analysts said the moves by the three automakers were intended to deal with U.S. congressional and auto industry complaints against the growing Japanese share in U.S. auto sales.

Among other Japanese automakers, Honda Motor Co., has decided not to cut exports to the U.S. in the April-June period. Officials said U.S. auto inventory levels are returning to normal after export reductions in February and March.

Mitsubishi Motors Corp. says it is planning to increase exports to the U.S. to make up for its slow exports last year.

Toyota Affiliate Develops Electric Car

OW0905115091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Nagoya, May 9 KYODO - Aisin AW Co., an affiliate of the Toyota Motor Group, has developed an electric car with a top speed of 120 kilometers per hour that can travel close to 300 kilometers on a single battery charge, company officials said Thursday.

The company plans to market the vehicle in about five years, officials said.

Protection of the environment has become a worldwide marketing concern for automakers, who are competing to offer cars that pollute less and consume less fuel.

European, American, and Japanese automakers are pouring vast amounts of money into building more advanced electric cars to meet public demands to preserve the ozone layer and reduce fuel consumption.

General Motors Corp. has plans to produce and market its electrically powered impact in the near future in the United States.

The impact, with a top speed of 120 kilometers per hour, can travel 200 kilometers on a single charge, using lead acid batteries.

Japanese steelmakers and electric power companies, along with some U.S. and European companies, already use electric vehicles at their plants.

Aisin's new electric car has a motor controller installed on each wheel. The controllers receive electric current from the main computer, which is linked to batteries.

The car, the same size as Toyota's 1500cc Corolla II, uses fiber optical cable to instruct the motor controllers when to accelerate or brake.

The vehicle traveled 200 kilometers at 40 kilometers per hour on a single charge, using lead acid batteries.

However, when researchers switched to nickel-cadmium type batteries, the vehicle traveled about 300 kilometers on a single charge.

Aisin is headquartered in Anjo, Aichi Prefecture.

Pioneer Upgrades Car Navigation System

OW0905053191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0455 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Pioneer Electronic Corp. said Thursday it will begin marketing a new car navigation system on May 21 that will be able to indicate the direction in which a car is heading and the route it is following.

Company officials said the price of the five-piece system will be 510,000 yen, and it expects monthly sales of 2,000 systems.

They said Pioneer will also introduce four compact disc read-only memories (CD-ROMs) containing updated road maps of Japan for use with the new system.

Mongolia

First Deputy Premier on Pending Privatization

OW0905011991 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1735 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, May 8 (OANA-MONTSAME)—Two out of three necessary preconditions for transition to market economy - a multiparty system and a real pluralism of views - already exist in Mongolia, said today D. Ganbold, MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] first vice-premier, at a press conference. The first task within the activity on transition to market economy now is to develop private property, added the first vice-premier.

M. Enhsayhan, chairman of the MPR State Small Hural Standing Committee on economic problems, was also present at the press conference on privatization of state property. Defining the basic content of the privatization law, which is being discussed today at the MPR State Small Hural, D. Ganbold said that the main principles of transition of state property to private hands with due regard for specific character of the country were enacted in the law and a right to the existance of private property was legally secured.

Answering to a question of the Soviet news agency "NOVOSTI" correspondent, whether Mongolia has now enough highly qualified specialists able to work under the conditions of market economy or by calling the former economic executives as managers and raising their salaries the government is going to solve this very question, the first vice-premier said in particular that Mongolia would invite foreign specialists at first.

Answering to question of a MONTSAME correspondent whether there will be Soviet specialists among them, D. Ganbold said that he would not follow the principle of dividing specialists by nationality.

As it is known, the government is going to carry out privatization by using the method of distribution of coupons to population, although it doesn't exclude a partial sale by auction.

Further on Privatization Plan

OW0905034391 Beijing XINHUA in English 0116 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Ulan Bator, May 8 (XINHUA)—Mongolia is to privatize 40 percent of its state-run enterprises within two to three years, Chief Assistant Premier [title as received] Dabaadorjiyn Ganbold said here today.

Ganbold, who is also chairman of the government's privatization committee, said the process will take place through auctions, share-holding and free allocation. The government will issue securities for citizens to buy off public enterprises, he added.

Crucial sectors of the Mongolian economy such as railways, civil aviation, mining, postal service, banking and power generation will remain in government hands.

The move to private ownership is primarily designed to introduce open competition to the economic arena, and, as part of a gradual transition to a market economy, will completely change the country's long-standing system of economic management, Ganbold said.

Mongolia now boasts more than 8,000 economic entities; eventually, 70 percent of them will become privately owned.

The government began selling off shops and parts of the food service trade to individuals or collective cooperatives at the beginning of this month in what has been termed "small privatization."

The Third Session of the Mongolian Small Hural (standing body for the Great People's Hural, or parliament) is currently discussing legislation concerning "big privatization" to decentralize the country's industry, agriculture and especially animal husbandry.

Mongolia's privatization committee was established at the beginning of this year.

Foreign Ministry Becomes Nonparty Institution

LD1005104391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0805 GMT 10 May 91

[By TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 10 May (TASS)—It looks as if the Ministry of Foreign Relations has become the first nonparty state institution in Mongolia. Its 47 staff members have suspended their membership of the Mongolian People's Revolution Party, the newspaper ARDYN ERKH reports.

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Diplomats who belong to the ruling party in the Mongolian People's Republic reckon that civil servants should not be members of any political organization. In the next few days, in accordance with a proposal made by the newspaper, a similar decision may be taken by the members of the Democratic and Social Democratic parties and the National Progress Party.

Presently, there are seven parties registered officially in Mongolia. All of them arrange their work on a territorial principle in keeping with the law.

Whereas Mongolian diplomats are suspending their membership of parties, parliamentarians of the Mongolian People's Republic are leaving the trade unions. According to the MONTSAME agency, 16 members of the Small Hural have left the ranks of trade unions. In their view, the trade unions were formed in their time in accordance with a "supreme decree," and not on a voluntary basis, as determined by the recently adopted law on trade unions.

Prime Minister Sends Telegram to USSR's Pavlov

OW0905012191 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1736 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 8 (OANA-MONTSAME)—Dashiyn Byambasuren, MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] prime minister in his telegram to V.S. Pavlov, prime minister of the USSR, expressed a condolence in connection with the natural calamity in the Soviet Uzbekistan, which entailed human lives and caused considerable damage.

Former Party Chief Tsedenbal Dies in Moscow

AU2204150591 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] Moscow, April 22 (AFP)—Former Mongolian Communist Party chief Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, a Stalinist who ruled his country for 32 years, has died in exile in Moscow, a Mongolian diplomat said Monday.

Mr. Tsedenbal, aged 75, died in hospital after a long illness, the diplomat said. He had lived here since his removal from power in August 1984, ostensibly for health reasons.

The repatriation of his remains was being discussed, the diplomat said.

Mr. Tsedenbal was in Moscow at the time of his ouster and never returned to Mongolia, the Kremlin putting him and his Soviet wife in a villa in a wooded suburb of the capital.

He is blamed in his home country today for decades of economic stagnation and of toadying to the Soviet Union.

Last year he was interviewed at home in Moscow by Mongolian state television, looking frail and showing signs of senility.

He succeeded Marshal Khorloin Choybalsan, whose reign of terror over Mongolia—patronized by Stalin—is only now being acknowledged by the authorities.

The party, Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party renounced its 66-year monopoly on power last year, won the country's first-ever free elections, and opened its doors to Asia and the West after years of Soviet domination.

Preparations for Revolutionary Anniversary Begin

OW0905011891 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1730 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, May 8 (OANA-MONTSAME)—The 70th anniversary of the Mongolian people's revolution is to be celebrated as a great event, which played an important role in Mongolian people's life. The preparations to this significant date are going on in all over the country, said today doctor K. Zardykhaan, deputy chairman of the preparatory commission, at the press conference for Mongolian and foreign journalists.

We'll celebrate the people's revolution jubilee in July this year in rather simple and restrained way than before, without any pomposity and resounding reports, which had been characteristic to celebrations of such events in previous times. But all that will not minimize the role of the revolution in the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] history. We'll celebrate this event together with our foreign friends, with those who feel a sympathy for us. We'll receive foreign guests through state, party and public organizations, said K. Zardykhaan. During the days of celebration a military parade, meeting of working people, demonstration performances of sportsmen and artists will take place on the central square of the capital. Also a folk-lore festival is to be organized. The exhibitions of people's art, painters' works and of the country's economic achievements will be opened. An international scientific conference, which is to begin its work on the 26 of June, will be one of the important actions during the celebrations.

A traditional "Eriin Gurvan Naadam" ("the three games of men") will become a culmination of the events. 512 wrestlers are to participate in "the three games of men".

North Korea

Students' 'Refused' Letter Read Over Radio

SK1005110291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The Korean Students Committee and the students in the northern half of the country warmly hail the inauguration of the fifth-term "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) and calls for a joint fight to realise the August 14-15 grand reunification festival of North, South and overseas students proposed by Chondaehyop.

This was stressed in a letter to the chairman of Chondaehyop of South Korea.

Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the DPRK Red Cross society had asked the South side to deliver the letter of Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee but the South Korean authorities refused it. So the letter was sent over radio today.

The letter dated May 9 says:

The South Korean students inaugurated another term of Chondaehyop. This was a solemn declaration that they would drive the foreign forces out of this land, restore the national independence, put an end to fascist dictatorship and usher in a new era of democracy.

Chondaehyop dispatched Yim Su-kyong, the "Flower of Reunification," to the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students as its delegate and issued a joint declaration which represented the unshakable will of the students in the North and the South to build a unified country and thereby demonstrated our nation's desire for reunification to the whole world and inspired the fervour for reunification among the fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas.

We must defend peace of the country, realise the long-cherished historic reunion of students of the North and the South and hold joint festivals conducive to national unity and peaceful reunification of the country through struggle.

Victory will be won through our struggle.

We firmly believe that the Southern students closely rallied around the fifth-term Chondaehyop as an iron unit will hold higher the banner of Chondaehyop imbued with the spirit of the seniors and martyrs and staunchly continue the struggle.

The entire students in the northern half of the country will always breathe and act together with the fighting students of South Korea.

PRC Magazine Article Reviews Li Peng Visit

SK0805045591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—The Chinese Magazine LIAOWANG No. 18 published an article titled "Sino-Korean Friendship and cooperation is steadily developing".

Referring to the Korean visit of Premier of the State Council of China Li Peng, it stressed that his visit will play an important role in strengthening friendly and cooperative relations between China and Korea.

Noting that China and Korea are close and friendly neighbours, the magazine said:

Sino-Korean friendship has withstood hard trials of history and struck its deep roots in the hearts of the two peoples.

The Chinese and Korean peoples have built up a sincere friendship, fighting shoulder to shoulder and sharing the same destiny in the period of the revolutionary war in the two countries and in the joint struggle against foreign aggression. In the period of socialist construction they strengthened this friendship still further, learning from and supporting and understanding each other.

The leaders of the two countries and two parties have frequently visited each other, exchanged views and steadily developed the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

In March last year Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, visited Korea at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and was accorded grand and warm welcome and hospitality by the party, Government and people of Korea, which fully demonstrated the traditional friendship between the two parties, two governments and two peoples.

We are convinced that Premier Li Peng's visit will, no doubt, further strengthen the friendly and cooperative relations between China and Korea, stressed the magazine.

North-South Soccer Match in Seoul Reported

SK1005044491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] According to a report by reporter Kim Myong-song from Seoul, the first match for selecting players for a joint North-South soccer team has taken place.

The first match for selecting players for the Sixth World Youth Soccer Championship took place at 1600 this afternoon at the Main Olympic Stadium in Seoul. The stadium was filled with compatriots from all walks of life in Seoul who had come to watch the selection match in which the players of the North and South will participate with an earnest desire for reunification. Numerous reporters from the North and South and abroad came to the stadium to cover the match for selecting players for the joint North-South team.

[Sound of applause heard in the background] When the players of the North and South were entering the stadium hand in hand, all the spectators stood up and enthusiastically welcomed them with loud applause and cheers. While making a round of the stadium hand in hand and waving their hands, the players of the two sides replied to the welcome of the spectators. Yi Myong-song, deputy chairman of the Korean Soccer Association and leader of our side's athletic team, and other team members came to the podium. The South side's sports and youth minister and other sports officials also came to the podium. After the opening of the first match for selecting players for the joint North-South team was declared, the South side's sports and youth minister delivered a welcome speech. Yi Myong-song, deputy chairman of the Korean Soccer Association and leader of our side's athletic team, delivered a reply speech.

[Begin Yi recording] Dear Seoul citizens and compatriots in the South! Our North side's players who participated in the soccer game for reunification in this stadium (?a year ago) have again come here filled with the pleasure of forming a single team. [applause]

In the name of our North side's athletic team, I sincerely express my thanks to you for having welcomed us with a warm compatriotic sentiment and extend my warm compatriotic greetings to you. [applause]

Our deep emotion as a result of our meeting with you, dear Seoul citizens, is soaring to the skies. The cheers from the soccer match for reunification at the 1 May Stadium along the Taedong River were followed by similar ones at this stadium. Today's event reminds me of the emotion of that time. I would like to hug you and run together [[words indistinct].

This current match is to select players for the joint North-South team. This is why we are filled with such emotion. For the North and South to form a joint team, not separate teams, means that the North and South will become one, not two, and will become more harmonious by becoming one. For the North and South to become one is the reunification of the fatherland. [applause]

Who are our fellow countrymen? We are the people of the same race who had been living harmoniously in the same land throughout our long history. Our nation was divided by outside forces, and we were competing with each other in sports games. This was an intolerable shame. [applause] This tragic history must not be repeated.

Today, North-South relations have cooled. However, the nation's warm and burning desire for reunification will surely melt the ice of confrontation and will crush the wall of division. After freeing themselves from confrontation once and for all, the North and South must open a new historical chapter of the fatherland's reunification, the nation's (?earnest desire).

The fellow countrymen must not compete with each other and must have the pleasure of winning in competitions with foreign countries.

We form single teams only in table tennis and soccer today. But, tomorrow, we must form single teams for all sports and participate in international competitions in the name of one fatherland.

Based upon these achievements in the sports sector, we must make all the sectors of the North and South one. We must kick balls and run for the reunification of the fatherland. Let us all applaud our soccer players to hasten the day of the reunification of the fatherland, which will surely come. [applause]

Hail to the reunification of the fatherland! [applause] [end recording]

Following the speech, soccer players played the match, divided into red and white teams. The audience sitting in the stadium enthusiastically cheered the players, waving miniature flags of the single team and singing the songs, "Arirang" and "Our Desire Is Reunification."

Whenever players from the North and the South displayed fine technique the audience enthusiastically applauded them. When the match was over, the players from the North and the South embraced each other, the stadium rang with the songs, "Arirang" and "Our Desire Is Reunification," and the players circled the track of the stadium hand in hand and waving their hands to the spectators. The audience congratulated the selection match with thunderous clapping and enthusiastic cheers.

[Begin recording] [unidentified North Korean reporter] I have come here to converse with you. Would you like to converse with me? What is your name?

[Spectator] My name is Ho Sang-kil.

[Reporter] Where do you live?

[Spectator] I live in Pongchon-dong, Seoul.

[Reporter] What was your impression of the first half of the game?

[Spectator] I was very impressed by the game. I am very excited and impressed to see that players from the South and the North are playing with one mind and one will and in the same stadium [as heard].

[Reporter] I think that if we form single teams in the sports field and participate in international games in the future this will surely be a good opportunity to demonstrate the wisdom and honor of our nation to the world. What do you think?

[Spectator] I agree with you. When I watched table tennis matches in Japan on television I felt deep emotion. I think that, when the South and the North are united as one nation, it can display great strength as we witnessed in the table tennis matches in Japan.

[Reporter] Would you [different spectator] like to comment on this?

[Different spectator] If and when the formation of a single soccer team is realized, I think, this will be a capital opportunity for our nation to demonstrate its excellence to the world as we witnessed in the recent world table tennis championship in Japan.

[Reporter] People I have met here said that when we unite as one we can expedite reunification. What do you think of this?

[Spectators cheer and clap] [end recording]

After the match, numerous Seoul citizens came out of the stadium and enthusiastically welcomed our players with warm compatriotic love, waving toward their bus.

Today's player selection match for the formation of the first single soccer team—which was held following the historic formation of the first single North-South Korean table tennis team since national division—demonstrated our nation's wisdom and honor to the world. Thus, the first round of the tryouts for the selection of players of a North-South single soccer team was held.

South Soccer Team Arrives for Appraisal Match

SK1005104191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1021 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The South side's team arrived here today by train through Panmunjom for the second appraisal match to select the players of the unified Korea team to compete in the sixth world youth soccer championships.

Arriving here were O Wan-kon, vice-chairman of the football association of the South side and head of the South side team, 18 players, and officials and reporters.

The South side team was met at Pyongyang Railway Station by officials concerned and footballers of the north side.

O Wan-kon made public a statement upon arrival at the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel, the lodging place.

He said: The only thing left to be done in the preparations for the participation of the unified Korea soccer team is to advance for [word indistinct].

Today we have realized the participation of the unified Korea soccer team. Tomorrow we should realize the reunification in a wide range of sports fields and, furthermore, take the lead in promoting the peaceful reunification of the country.

The second appraisal match will be held at the May Day Stadium in Pyongyang on May 12.

Korean Group in Japan Gives Party for Team

SK0805061691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo May 7 (KNS-KCNA)—A farewell party was given at the Prince Hotel in Tokyo Tuesday in honour of the unified "Korea" table tennis team which had participated in the world table tennis championships.

It was sponsored by the joint welcome committee of Koreans in Japan for the "Korea" team.

At the party O Hyong-chin and Pak Song-u, co-chairmen of the committee, Kim Hyong-chin head of the team, and the vice-chairman of the table-tennis league of Japan made speeches.

Pak Song-u said that the victory of the paddlers of the "Korea" team in the championships was a valuable one and honour produced by the unity of the fellow countrymen, adding that this place today is a starting point of hope toward reunification, not parting.

O Hyong-chin extended thanks to the team for having infused a great national pride and honor as well as a great hope for national reunification, confidence and encouragement into 700,000 Korean residents in Japan by exalting the name of Korea all over the world.

Kim Hyong-chin said that through the championships the sportsmen in the North and the South acquired a new truth that if they pool their minds as one whether they live in the North and the South or abroad, this leads to reunification.

The reunification festival which began with table tennis should be followed by the reunification festival of the whole nation, he said.

The vice-chairman of the table tennis league of Japan said that the Japanese people were deeply moved to see the might of a unified nation demonstrated by the paddlers who achieved success in the matches with united strength and Koreans in Japan who warmly cheered them everyday.

This firmly convinced me that Korea is sure to be reunified, he stressed.

The party proceeded in an atmosphere overflowing with compatriotic feelings and conviction of national reunification.

South Dailies Accused of Inciting Antagonism

SK0805053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 7 (KCNA Correspondent)—Those who dislike the unified team are hell bent on inciting antagonism in Seoul.

This is well illustrated by the fact that articles and scenes speaking ill of the North have appeared in TONG-A ILBO, CHOSON ILBO, CHUNGANG ILBO and other dailies and on the screen of "MBC" television of South Korea from the very day when our team and its entourage arrived in Seoul to participate in the appraisal match to select players of the North-South unified soccer team.

The anti-reunification elements carried an article slinging mud at our system in the morning issue of CHOSON ILBO May 7. All the more intolerable is the fact that they are vilifying us in dailies borrowing even the names of "national assemblymen" who returned after participating in the 85th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union held in Pyongyang.

Such demeanor of the South side cannot be regarded merely as an uncourteous act.

How did leading dailies of South Korea come to carry articles which get on our nerves at a time when the fellow countrymen in the South are rejoicing at the success of the unified Korea table tennis team and sincerely welcoming our soccer team to Seoul, wishing the North-South unified soccer team a success?

As is known, the million fellow countrymen who raised cheers at the success of the unified Korea table tennis team and the conscience of the world sincerely wished the success would lead to national reunification.

This wish, obviously, sent a tremor through the anti-reunification elements. They are kicking up an anti-North racket, timed to coincide with the arrival of our Soccer team in Seoul, thinking that if the unified Korea soccer team adds a success to the gain of the unified Korea table tennis team, they who seek division will be driven into a tighter corner.

South Accused of Restricting North Reporters

SK0805053291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 7 (KCNA Correspondent)—The South side is restricting all the activities of our reporters, letting two or three "guides" dangle round each of them from the moment they crossed the Military Demarcation Line to cover the appraisal match to select players of the North-South unified soccer team in Seoul.

30 or 50 "guides" with walkie-talkies in their hands are on the standby alert at all times on each floor of the hotel, and the "guides" are following our reporters in droves even in mealtime.

Especially, the South side is committing mean acts of totally blocking news coverage by our reporters.

Police and "guides" kept our reporters from going out of the stadium when the footballers of the two sides were engaged in joint training on May 6 and 7.

On the morning of May 7, "guides" of the South side committed without hesitation such an impudent act as pulling our reporters by the sleeve and snatching cameras from their hands when they were going to take photographs of our players at a morning exercise around the hotel.

The South side sent an estimated 150 agents to accompany our 10 reporters when visiting a folklore museum.

Japan's Support of Separate UN Membership Noted

SK0505084791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0817 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Tokyo May 2 (KNS-KCNA)—The "Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Unification", the "South Korean Youth League in Japan" and the "Society of South Korean Women in Japan for Democracy", organisations under the "South Korean Residents Association in Japan" (Mindan), released a statement in a joint name on April 26 in protest against the Japanese Government for having sympathized with the moves of the South Korean authorities for "separate entry into the United Nations" at the "6th regular meeting of foreign ministers" of South Korea and Japan.

Pointing out that the South Korean authorities' moves for "unilateral U.N. membership" were prompted by an ulterior design to make the division recognized on the international arena and freeze "two Koreas", the statement continued:

As for the United Nations, we keenly experienced that it illegally meddled in the internal affairs of our nation in the past and exerted a negative influence on national reunification.

The Japanese Government must not support the "unilateral U.N. membership" opposed by the whole Korean nation but draw a proper lesson from its past colonial rule over our country and take the responsibility for the division.

PRC Spokesman on North-South UN Entry Issue

SK1005025191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] In a weekly news conference on 9 May in Beijing, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeman answered reporters' questions and talked about the issue of Korea joining the United Nations.

The spokesman said that during Premier Li Peng's visit to the DPRK both sides discussed the issue of North-South Korea's entry into the United Nations. The spokesman also said that the Chinese side hoped that through dialogue and negotiations, both the North and South sides will find methods that both sides can accept and will resolve this issue reasonably.

Radio Reports Appeal to South Students, Workers

SK0805072891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
2155 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) issued an appeal on May 6 calling on the students, workers, peasants and dissidents to pool their strength and launch a joint struggle against No Tae-u and the "Democratic Liberal Party," the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

The appeal said:

The fellow countrymen feel a gnawing ache in their hearts at the tragic death of Kang Kyong-tae, a patriotic student of Myongji University, and at the heroic death of Kim Yong-kyon of Andong College and Chon Se-yong of Kyongwon university who set themselves ablaze.

It is a demand of the rigorous reality of South Korea and a unanimous will of the people to put an end to the murderous security-oriented rule and oust the No Tae-u military fascist "regime."

The people of all walks of life should give rise to a second June resistance with the towering rage caused by the death of the students and end the security-oriented rule and the No Tae-u military fascist "regime" and herald a spring of democracy as desired by Kang Kyong-tae, Kim Yong-kyon and Chon Se-yong.

Let us turn all campuses, work places, streets, farms, fishing villages, churches and cathedrals into places of nationwide rallies and protests against the security-oriented rule and the No Tae-u "regime"!

Let us all people courageously lead the undaunted fighting spirit to the May 9 all-people anti-"Democratic Liberal Party" rallies and to the struggle to inherit the May 18 Kwangju resistance and wage a relentless struggle marking the June 10 popular resistance!

Democracy cannot be expected in this land without rejecting the U.S. domination and interference, said the appeal, calling or holding higher the banner of anti-U.S. struggle, with the awareness that the mastermind of fascist dictatorship is the United States.

Mourning Ceremony Held for South's Dissidents

SK1005110491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1016 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) held a mourning ceremony in Seoul on May 8 to pay the last homage to the late Kang

Kyong-tae of Myongji University, Kim Yong-kyun of Andong National College, Chon Se-yong of Kyongwon University, chairman of the labour union of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. Pak Chang-su and head of the Social Affairs Department of the Coalition for National Democratic Movement Kim Ki-son, radio Voice of National Salvation reported from Seoul.

The participants in the ceremony observed a moment's silence in memory of the martyrs.

A mourning address of the Hanminjon Central Committee was read at the ceremony.

The address noted that the valiant struggle of the martyrs and students was a noble and just struggle to restore the dignity of the nation, achieve the human rights of the maltreated people, save the nation from permanent division and reunify the country.

No Tae-u the murderer is blocking the righteous struggle of the students and people with violence and tear gas and killing people by brandishing the bayonet, the address points out, adding: This unheard-of murder eloquently tells to the world the anti-popular, violent nature of the South Korean military dictatorial "regime".

The vanguard fighters of Hanminjon and all other patriotic people are determined to build a new [word indistinct] which will be dignified [word indistinct] its independence, harmonious in democracy and prosperous with reunification desired earnestly by the martyrs in their lifetime, it said, stressing: Hanminjon will certainly lead the struggle for independence, democracy and reunification to final victory.

Radio, Foreign Press Quoted on Rallies in South

SK1005053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0451 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—More than 200,000 people from all walks of life participated in all-people rallies and demonstrations in South Korean cities on May 9 on the occasion of the "day of the dissolution of the Democratic Liberal Party," Seoul-based radios and foreign press reported.

Upwards of 70,000 people staged demonstrations in Seoul. That day more than 100,000 students of 59 universities across South Korea turned out in struggle.

Over 10,000 students at Korea University in Seoul staged a street demonstration and some 20 students cut the tips of their fingers with razor blades and wrote banners in their blood reading "Down with the No Tae-u 'regime'."

They also wrote the names of four students who have set fire to themselves in an act of protest, adding "We will follow the martyrs."

The angry shouts "The murderous 'regime' cannot be our government" and "Punish the murderers" burst forth from among the demonstrators.

Noting that more than 600,000 students boycotted classes throughout South Korea, AP reported that over 45,000 police backed by water cannons and armored vehicles were mobilized to block street demonstrations in Seoul and 50 other cities on May 9.

Referring to the repressive frenzy of combat-clad police corps, AP said the city centre of Seoul resembled army barracks.

Police whisked away some 40 officials of the Democratic Party including its President Yi Ki-taek.

At an all-people rally of more than 30,000 people in the Pusan area the vice-chairman of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. trade union published a statement demanding a probe into the cause of the death of Pak Chang-su, chairman of the company's trade union.

More than 20,000 citizens of Kwangju held an all-people rally at the Kumnam-ro Street which had been suffused with blood at the time of the resistance 11 years before, shouting "Disband the Democratic Liberal Party" and "Terminate the security-oriented rule."

Protests continued till late at night in Masan where the April 19 uprising of 1960 erupted and in Changwon, Taegu, Chonju, Taejon, Kunsan, Chunchon and Cheju Island.

Radio "CBS" [Christian Broadcast System] reported that the current struggle "Seems to be the biggest demonstration since the emergence of the Sixth Republic," saying although more than 40,000 police have been mobilized to suppress demonstrations, they find it difficult to suppress them because of the large number of demonstrators.

Trade Union Spokesman on South Unionist's Death

SK0905160691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1517 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the C.C. [Central Committee], the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK] in a statement today bitterly denounced on behalf of all the unionists in the northern half of the country the No Tae-u military fascist ruling group for having murdered a trade union chairman in the Seoul prison and insisting that he committed suicide.

The death of Pak Chang-su, chairman of the Hanjin Heavy Industry Co. Trade Union, is not a "suicide" but a premeditated and deliberate murder as unanimously claimed by the South Korean workers and various circles, he said, and added:

In South Korea the cold-blooded murder and outrages do not cease and the fascist, murderous tentacles are stretched out to students, workers, children and all other people.

Pointing out that No Tae-u is a truculent murderer who will unhesitatingly commit another Kwangju massacre to prop up the power, the spokesman called on the South Korean workers to turn out as one in the decisive fight against the U.S. imperialists and the No ruling group to take revenge for their fellow workers and students who died with grudge.

All the workers in the northern half of the country, as the fellow countrymen of the same blood and class brothers, will always fully support and encourage the South Korean workers in their sacred, patriotic struggle, the spokesman declared.

No Tae-u's 'Claim' of Democratization Viewed

SK0805062291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 8 May 91

["Ridiculous Trick of Mastermind of Murder"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—No Tae-u said at a party at "Chongwadae" May 3 that because the murder of Kang Kyong-tae occurred after "democratization had been realised", it should not be viewed in the same light with those in the preceding period and that the "vicious cycle of violence causing another violence" should be eliminated.

NODONG SINMUN today brands this as a murderer's shameless concealment of the reality and brazen trick to evade the blame.

The news analyst says:

No Tae-u's claim that democratization has been realised in South Korea is a preposterous and sheer fabrication.

He once made "commitments to democratization" but has materialised none of them since he came to power. Today he even threw away the veil of "democratization" and openly resorts to military fascist rule.

His argument that the excessive police repression is caused by violent protests of the students is also a lie.

Violence is an intrinsic nature of fascist murderers.

No Tae-u, finding himself accused by the nation of being the mastermind of murder, is hinting a partial "reshuffle" of the puppet cabinet involving the "prime minister". This is no more than a trick to win favour of the people.

Would the situation of South Korea change with the replacement of a few "ministers" with others while South Korea remains under the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and No Tae-u backed by them stays in dictatorial power?

He is making a fuss with such words as "apology," "prevention of recurrence" and "improvement" in a bid to mislead public opinion at any cost, lull the strong resistance of the students and people which is growing day by day and bridge over the serious crisis of his rule.

With no trick, however, can No Tae-u conceal his ugly color as the mastermind of murder or evade the blame for driving students to death.

He must face a stern judgement by the people as the chief culprit of murder and step down from fascist power without delay.

U.S. 7 May Military Aerial Exercises Reported

SK0905055191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command on May 7 staged joint aerial and ground strike exercises against the North in the sky above South Korea, according to military sources.

Mobilized in the reckless military maneuvers in the skies above Yongdong, Ryoju, Kunwi and Sosan were formations of nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers based in the Pacific and some 110 fighter-bombers, assault planes and observation planes of the U.S. 7th Airforce and the puppet airforce.

At the same time, the U.S. Pacific Airforce and naval commands swiftly moved formations of nuclear-capable fighter-bombers, assault planes and VTOL [vertical takeoff and landing] assault planes from the Kadena, Misawa, Atsuki and Iwakuni bases in Japan to the Osan Airfield and staged a joint aerial strike exercise against the North in a planned way in the sky above South Korea.

And the U.S. Pacific Airforce Command on May 7 deployed formations of Pacific-based C-130 transport planes loaded with military supplies in the Osan airfield.

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists sent formations of C-130 transport planes carrying "commandoes" to the sky above Kunsan for a frantic war exercise of infiltrating into the portion of our side at night.

On the same day, formations of Pacific-based A-4 assault planes conducted an aerial operation for supporting ground attack units in the sky above Pochon area, South Korea, in coordination with formations of F-16 fighter-bombers of the puppet airforce.

The military planes which flew above South Korea on May 7 alone totalled more than 580.

Team Spirit Described as 'Test Nuclear War'

SK1005054391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 10 May 91

['Team Spirit 91' Was Adventurous Test Nuclear War"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The "Team Spirit 91" joint military maneuvers staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities for more than 90 days from late January despite strong public protests and condemnation at home and abroad were a dangerous war game and a test nuclear war which turned back the situation on the Korean peninsula from tendency toward detente, led it to the brink of war, aggravated the inter-korean relations and plunged them again into a vortex of confrontation.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a signed article entitled "Adventurous War Game Which Gravely Threatened Peace and Security on Korean peninsula".

The article continues:

The annual "Team Spirit" maneuvers have been held 16 times in South Korea, but none of them except the last one have been held in so grave a war atmosphere as this year.

The "Team Spirit" staged in a horrible atmosphere was an offensive operation exercise and a very dangerous nuclear war game for a surprise attack on the DPRK.

The "Team Spirit 91" not only threatened peace on the Korean peninsula but also laid grave obstacles to inter-Korean dialogue and prevented the inter-Korean high-level talks from being held as scheduled.

This year's war game clearly showed that U.S. imperialism is the chieftain of aggression and war and disturber of peace.

There is no doubt that the United States which has become more arrogant after the collapse of the balance of forces in the international arena and swollen-headed after the Gulf war is hastening the realization of its long-projected design to invade the northern half of Korea and other countries in Asia with South Korea as the forward base.

The South Korean authorities, taking advantage of the U.S. imperialists' "policy of strength," are acting recklessly to realise the foolish dream of "unification by prevailing over communism" through a war.

If the U.S. imperialists think they can intimidate and frighten the DPRK, it is a miscalculation. The aggressors must draw a lesson from their disgraceful defeat caused by the Korean people in the 1950s.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers, obsessed with an anachronistic ambition, ignite another war on the Korean peninsula, the warmaniacs will be burned to death in the flames kindled by themselves.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets Supreme Soviet Delegation

SK0605153691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1514 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Yang Hyong-sop met and had a friendly coversation with the delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by Valentina S. Klibik, deputy chairperson of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present on the occasion were O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the C.C., the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, and Aleksandr Kapto, Soviet ambassador to Korea.

O Chin-u Sends Greetings to Soviet Official

SK0805112291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Timofeyevich Yazov, defence minister of the USSR, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

The message notes that during the Second World War the officers and men of the Soviet armed forces had heroically fought, displaying matchless bravery and self-sacrificing spirit, and thereby discharged their noble mission for the country and people with credit.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations existing between the armies of Korea and the Soviet Union will further strengthen and develop in their mutual interests in the future, I take this opportunity to sincerely wish you great success in your responsible work for increasing the defence capabilities of the country, says the message.

Kim Il-song Meets Left Party Delegates of Peru

SK0305112591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], today received the delegation of the Democratic Left Party of Ecuador led by Nicolas Issa Ovando, general secretary of the party, on a visit to Korea.

On hand were Kim Yong-sun, secretary, and Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department, of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Il-song had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He gave a luncheon for the guests.

Pak Song-chol Sees Off Chongnyon Delegation

SK0405003091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1608 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan headed by Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), left here today, concluding its visit to the socialist homeland.

It was seen off at the airport by Vice-President Pak Song-chol, Secretary Yun Ki-pok, Vice-Premier Chang Chol and other officials concerned.

Also present was Ho Chong-man, vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, staying in the socialist homeland.

Japanese Friendship Delegation Arrives for Visit

SK0505082791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Liberal member of the House of Representatives Masayoshi Takemura, vice-chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship, and socialist member of the

House of Representatives Yuzuru Shimazaki, director of the secretariat of the league, arrived in Pyongyang on May 4.

They were met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Japanese Diet Member Meets With Kim Yong-sun

SK0605062691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0531 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun Sunday met and had a coversation with liberal member of the House of Representatives Masayoshi Takemura, vice-chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship, and socialist member of the House of Representatives Yuzuru Shimazaki, director of the Secretariat of the League.

Official Departs for Home

SK0905064991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Masayoshi Takemura, member of the Japanese Diet from the Liberal-Democratic Party and vice chairman of the Parliamentary Union for Promotion of Japan-DPRK Frindship, today returned home by airplane.

At the airport, he was seen off by Kim Yang-kon, deputy director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

LSWYK Delegation Arrives in Tokyo 4 May

SK0905065391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] of our country led by Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, yesterday arrived in Narita Airport in Tokyo, Japan.

The delegation was greeted at the airport by (Iwashi Hiroaki), auditor in the Council of Japan Youth Organizations, and other personages concerned.

The delegation was also greeted by O Hyong-chin, vice chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan [Chongnyon], Yi Myong-chun, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the League of Korean Youth Residing in Japan, and other members of the League.

Choe Tae-pok Sees Off Libyan Delegation

SK0205060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Libyan General People's Congress led by Mahmud al-Khafif, assistant secretary general of the congress, left here for home on May 1.

It was seen off at Pyongyang railway station by Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Abd al-Hadi Mustafa, acting secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of Libya here.

Delegations Leave for Switzerland, China

SK0205154391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Ministry of Public Health of the DPRK headed by its minister Yi Chong-yul left here today to participate in the 44th meeting of the World Health Organisation to be held in Switzerland and a delegation of the Central Procurator's Office headed by its director Han Sang-kyu to visit China.

WPK Delegation Leaves for Middle East Visit

SK0205114091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Pary of Korea [WPK] headed by Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the Central Committee [CC] of the WPK, left here today for a visit to Syria, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia.

It was seen off at the airport by Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of C.C., the WPK, and Syrian Ambassador to Korea Yasir Farah.

Choe Tae-pok Meets With Egypt's Mubarak

SK1005112291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Muhammed Husni Mubarak met the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Secretary of its Central Committee Choe Tae-pok at the presidential palace on May 8.

The head of the delegation conveyed greetings of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Muhammed Husni Mubarak. He also handed a personal letter of President Kim Il-song to the Egyptian president.

Expressing deep thanks for this, the Egyptian president asked the head of the delegation to convey his cordial greetings to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Referring to the development of the friendly relations between the two countries, he extended full support to the proposal for national reunification through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments advanced by President Kim Il-song, saying that it is an excellent proposal for reunification.

The conversation took place in an amicable atmosphere.

Group Leaves for PRC; Iranian Group Arrives

SK0905154191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—A party workers' delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Kim Tok-hyon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left here today for a visit to China.

And a delegation of the Education and Training Commission of Iranian Parliament led by its head Mohammad Gomi [name as received] arrived here today.

Earlier, on Wednesday, a delegation of the Korea-Ireland Friendship Association headed by its Vice-Chairman Yi Chol-sin, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, left for a visit to Ireland.

Kim Tal-hyon Receives Iranian Postal Delegation

SK0905155591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon today met and had a friendly conversation with a delegation of the Ministry of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs of Iran headed by its minister Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi on a visit to Korea.

Present there were Kim Hak-sop, minister of post and tele-communications, and Hasan Dabir, Iranian ambassador to Korea.

The delegation arrived in Pyongyang that day.

Attends Party for Iranian Group

SK1005051691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The Administration Council Thursday gave a party for the delegation of the Ministry of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs of Iran on a visit to Korea.

Invited to the party were the members of the delegation headed by its Minister Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi and Iranian Ambassador to Korea Hasan Dabir.

Present there were Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon, Minister of Post and Telecommunications Kim Hak-sop and other officials concerned.

Speeches were made at the party.

Pak Song-chol Receives New Polish Ambassador

SK0605113491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Pak Song-chol, vice-president of the DPRK, received credentials from newly-appointed Polish Ambassador E.P. to Korea Ryszard Baturo at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Sunday.

Yi Chong-ok Meets With Indian President

SK1005104491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Indian President R. Venkataraman on Mar 8 met with the DPRK Government delegation led by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok.

The head of the delegation conveyed greetings of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to President R. Venkataraman.

He also conveyed a personal letter of President Kim Il-song to the Indian president.

Expressing deep thanks for this, the Indian president asked the head of the delegation to convey his wishes of longevity to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He handed a gift for President Kim Il-song to the head of the delegation.

The conversation proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Yong-nam Meets Ghanaian, Nigerian Delegates

SK0905054891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister, met and had a friendly talk with a delegation of the Foreign Ministry of Ghana headed by C.O.C. Amate [as received], special adviser to the secretary for foreign affairs on May 8.

On the same day, Kim Yong-nam met and had a conversation with new Nigerian Ambassador E.P. to Korea Olugbenga Ayodeji Ashiru who paid a courtesy call on him.

Kim Il-song Receives Nigerian Envoy's Visit

SK0905105691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today received credentials from Olugbenga Ayodeji Ashiru, newly-appointed Nigerian ambassador e.p. to Korea.

Present at the presenting ceremony were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials of the Nigerian Embassy here.

After receiving the credentials President Kim Il-song conversed with the ambassador.

5 May Editorial Celebrates Birthday of Marx

SK0505101291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—All papers here today dedicate editorial articles to the 173rd birth anniversary of Karl Marx, the distinguished leader of the world working class.

NODONG SINMUN quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Karl Marx made a great contribution to the liberation cause of mankind, and because of his immortal exploits his name is still enshrined in the hearts of the working class and peoples of all countries."

Marx's great contribution lies in that he advanced Marxism which provided the working class with a powerful ideological and theoretical weapon.

Marx critically examined the progressive ideas and theories in that time including the classic philosophy of Germany, the classic political economy of Britain and the utopian socialist theory of France, and analysed and generalised the contradictions of capitalism. On this basis he clarified the principles of dialectical and historical materialism, advanced the theories of surplus value, proved the inevitability of the downfall of capitalism and the triumph of communism, and turned socialism from utopia into science. Thanks to Marx's ideological and theoretical contribution, the working class and people could have their own scientific world outlook for the first time, understand the law of social development and struggle firmly seizing the control lever for the development of history in their hands.

Marx elucidated the historical mission of the working class and advanced the scientific theory of the proletarian dictatorship.

Basing himself on the profound analysis of the class relations of capitalist society, he expounded the idea that only the working class was the most advanced and revolutionary class with a mission to entomb capitalism, put an end to exploitation of man by man once and for all and build a communist society. He elucidated the truth that the struggle of the working class against the capitalist class would inevitably bring about the dictatorship of the proletariat. The Marxist idea on the class struggle and the proletarian dictatorship served as a powerful weapon in the struggle to accomplish class emancipation and push ahead the cause of socialism. The history of the international revolutionary movement since the founding of Marxism shows that only when the working-class party firmly upholds its class principles and tightly seizes the weapon of the proletarian dictatorship, can it firmly defend the gains of the revolution and stoutly adhere to the socialist banner.

Marx not only placed a weapon of struggle in the hands of the working class and the exploited working masses at the dawn of the proletarian revolution but also directly participated in the revolutionary struggle, thus greatly contributing to exploring its path.

He, with a deep insight into the importance of political organisation of the working class in the revolutionary struggle, formed the league of communists and published the "Communist Manifesto" together with Engels, thereby opening up a new era in which the working class fights with a scientific programme under the guidance of its party.

He fought an uncompromising fight against all class enemies. Bourgeoisie and contemptible sycophants in the service of them made desperate efforts to stifle Marxism with an extreme hatred for it from the outset. He steadfastly defended the essence of the revolutionary idea of the working class from the attack of bourgeois reactionaries and all hues of opportunists, in the spirit of waging an uncompromising struggle against the class enemies. Particularly, he resolutely struggled against opportunists within the First International who preached the theory of collaboration and compromise among classes, hamstringing the revolutionary principle of the working class, and thus firmly guaranteed the purity of Marxism and enriched its ideological and theoretical treasure.

By waging an uncompromising struggle against all trends of reactionary ideology, Marx taught the lesson that the truth and vitality of the revolutionary idea of the working class can be firmly ensured only through a resolute struggle against the bourgeoisie and opportunists.

More than one century has passed since Marx's activities in his lifetime. Communism which was considered to be a "spectre" that haunted Europe in that period is now in existence as a stark reality and material strength.

The reality in our country where big successes are reported in the revolution and construction firmly convince the people of the invincibility of the cause of socialism and communism pioneered by Marx and its bright future.

Today the imperialists and their sycophants are resorting to foolish manoeuvrings to hamstring the truth of the doctrine of scientific communism, the revolutionary idea of the working class, raising a hue and cry over the "failure of socialism". It is, however, nothing but a sophism. The revolutionary cause of the working class is bound to triumph as long as there are communists and the revolutionary peoples who are pushing forward the powerful trend of the era of independence, holding fast to the revolutionary principle of the working class.

Unity is a mighty weapon of the working class and important ideology propounded by Marxism. From the very day of its appearance in history the working class always waged a vigorous struggle against the international capital in reliance upon the strength of unity. The obtaining situation makes it incumbent upon us to advance under the unfurled banner of unity for successfully pushing ahead with the anti-imperialist cause of independence and socialism. When all the revolutionary forces championing independence advance in firm unity upholding the banner of revolution, it is possible to triumphantly accelerate the human cause of independence, the cause of socialism.

The cause of socialism started by Marx will be ever-victorious thanks to the struggle of the revolutionary people the world over.

Dailies Mark Soviet Victory in World War II

*SK0905101891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0958 GMT 9 May 91*

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the 46th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article says:

The victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War has been recorded brilliantly in the history of the country.

The Soviet people and Army under the leadership of the Bolshevik Communist Party fully displayed matchless sacrificing spirit and mass heroism in the sacred war against the aggression of the Hitlerite fascist clique designed to stifle the Soviet Union, the world's first socialist state, and dealt a crushing defeat at the aggressors.

The article goes on:

The Soviet Army and people played a decisive role in defeating fascist Germany.

They won victory over the fascist aggressors, defended the Soviet motherland with credit and liberated the peoples of many countries from the danger of fascist enslavement.

After the war the Soviet Army has creditably discharged its mission and duty to safeguard the security and the state and social system of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Army and people have in the past struggled to increase the might of the country and achieve socio-economic development.

The Soviet Union is striving to realise universal disarmament and ensure peace and security of the world.

The victory of the Soviet Union in the patriotic war signified a solemn warning to the bellicose forces of imperialism.

Believing that the Korean-Soviet friendship will develop favourably in conformity with the common interests and the cause of peace of the two peoples, we wish the Soviet people success in their future work.

MINJU CHOSON in an article says the historic victory of the Soviet people was an important event of world historic significance and the Korean people extend congratulations to the Soviet Army and people on this occasion.

'Superiority' of North's Socialism Elucidated

SK1005102691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0007 GMT 28 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 28 April Special Article: "For the Party and the State to Guarantee the People's Creative Life in a Responsible Manner Is the Inherent Superiority of Our Socialism"]

[Text] Recently in his documents the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extensively elucidated great superiority and vitality of our socialism that our people have chosen of their own accord and have built with their own strength. As elucidated by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, for the party and the state to guarantee the people's creative life in a responsible manner is an inherent superiority of our socialism.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: The inherent superiority of socialism finds expression in providing the popular masses with a rewarding, creating life. In our country, the party and the state provide in a responsible manner all conditions for the working masses of the people so that they can lead a rewarding, creative life to their hearts content.

Man is a social being which takes independence and creativity as its essential character. Therefore, this demands that man live and develop not only indepenently, but creatively. Man constantly conducts the creative activities to reform society, to remake nature, and to shape his destiny, and through this course man realizes his independent demands and, thus, leads a rewarding life. As man is a social being, man's demands for living and developing creatively can be smoothly realized only through the creative activities of society and groups.

Social groups' creative activities are conducted under a social system. Therefore, whether or not people's creative life is guaranteed by the state constitutes an important factor which prescribes the progressiveness and superiority of a social system. In the capitalist society, we cannot contemplate the fact that the state guarantees the people's creative life in a responsible manner. In the capitalist society, far from guaranteeing the people's creative life the state brutally tramples underfoot even people's primary right to live and the right for their creative activities.

In the capitalist society, the bourgeois state does not care about whether the working people have jobs and food or whether they starve to death. This is an inevitable phenomenon of the capitalist society under which the state has become the tool which protects the interests of the exploiting class.

Providing the people with the conditions for their creative life is the phenomenon which can be witnessed only in the socialist society, and this is an aspect of the inherent superiority of socialism over capitalism. All conditions for the people's creative life in the socialist society are guaranteed by the party and the state of the working class. The socialist society is the society in which the people are the master, and the mission of the party and the state of the working class is to serve the people.

In the socialist society, we cannot contemplate the activity of the party and the state which is apart from the people's interests, nor can we contemplate policies of the party and the state which have nothing to do with the people's creative life.

Our socialism which has been built based on the chuche idea is a superior socialism in which the popular masses' demands for the creative life have been most outstandingly embodied. In the socialist society of our country in which all things are contemplated with men as the center and in which all things serve the people, all the working people are today leading a rewarding and happy life to their hearts content, receiving from the party and the state all conditions for their creative life.

The superiority of our socialism in which the party and the state guarantee the people's creative life in a responsible manner finds clear expression above all in their rewarding labor life. The right of labor is people's basic right, and the guarantee for people's stable jobs according to their ability and talent is one of the important conditions for a creative life. People can change nature, can develop society, and can lead their rewarding lives only through their creative labor.

For all members of society to guarantee the right to labor and provide a magnificent labor condition are issues that must be resolved with priority by the working class party and nation. This is to guarantee the people's creative life.

In our country a stable job in which all working people can work according to their desire, capability, and aptitude is guaranteed legally, and according to the economic organizer function and labor protection policy of the party and the nation, a stable and cultural labor environment and a magnificent labor protection condition are provided and are being endlessly improved to carry out a creative labor life.

Also, along with the right to work, everyone is guaranteed to take a rest and they are receiving many benefits such as the social insurance system and the social security system which are provided by the nation and society.

Since the party and the nation are responsible and cares for the working people, the labor life of the working people in our society is the source of blossoming their true life and guaranteeing a happy life. Thus, this becomes a worthwhile creative activity for the fatherland, the people, the society, and the group.

This is the most valuable and worthwhile labor life which cannot even be imagined under capitalism where there are too many people who are unemployed and where the workers are forced to work for the riches and splendor of the exploiting class. Here, the working people are used as appendages of opportunity.

The superiority of our socialism is also shown from the fact that the party and the nation magnificently provide various kinds of material conditions which is to guarantee a creative life for the people.

Smoothly satisfying the people's demand for a material life is not only an inevitable demand for their sound physical development, but is also an important condition in guaranteeing their creative activities.

In a socialist society, since the working people live together in a social group and not individually, the people's creative life can be guaranteed smoothly only when the party and the nation is responsible and when the party and the nation provides a material life for the people. Also, by doing so a sound development in society can be achieved.

Our party's greatest principle in its activity is to endlessly improve the people's lives, is laying various kinds of consideration to the people, and all policies of the nation are thoroughly being contributed to improving the conditions of the lives of the working people including workers and farmers.

According to the people's policy of the party and nation which unsparingly turns everything for the promotion of the popular masses' welfare, our country is guaranteed of all conditions necessary for food, clothes, consumption, and living such as giving food to the people for almost free of charge.

In our country the tax system has been completely abolished. Therefore, the people are living without even knowing the word 'tax.' Also, according to the people's policy such as free compulsory education system and free medical care system the people are truly receiving many benefits from the nation.

Today, according to the consideration of the party and the nation, our people are all enjoying an even and happy life without any worries about their livelihood.

Our society's true appearance is such that all members of society get supplies of whatever is necessary for feeding, clothing, and sheltering themselves and live a happy life through mutual help and guidance, thanks to the sagacious leadership and consideration of the party and leader.

This is the true superiority of our own style of socialism which cannot be compared to capitalism which is dominated by the poor-get-poorer, and the rich-get-richer; and the law of fang and claw based on individualism and egoism.

The superiority of our own style of socialism in which the people's creative demands are satisfactorily embodied also finds its expression in the fact that the party and state bring up all members of society as creative, fully-developed beings, equipped with a high degree of creativity.

The popular masses' creative living can be guaranteed satisfactorily when the popular masses raise their creativity without interruption. Only when they are endowed with a high degree of creativity can the popular masses remold nature and society, in accordance with their independent demands and in a way that suits their goals, while enjoying creative living and a sound and cultured material life.

The exploiting class in capitalist society needs employed workers armed with skills that can be turned into parts of machines as well as an instrument in maximizing profits, not human beings with fully developed creativity.

The ruling class in capitalist society are not only fearful of the working people waking up to independence and an increase in their creativity, but are also inclined to keep them from becoming so as much as possible.

In our society which is centered on the popular masses, the party and state direct the highest concern and consideration to bringing up all the people as communistic men armed with high creativity, in addition to independent awareness.

Developing science, education, culture, and health work is an important demand for raising the people's creativity. Only when science, education, culture, and health work are developed is it possible to bring up all members of society as able and developed men armed with modern scientific knowledge, rich cultural knowledge, and physical fitness.

In our country the party and state are responsible for guaranteeing the people with education, culture, and health, and scientific development. This is the most superior system that is possible only in our country.

Thanks to great concern and consideration of the party and state, science, education, literature, arts, and health work are rapidly developing in our country, while all members of society who are lined up behind educational organizations learn diversified knowledge and skills and raise the degree of their cultural knowledge.

Also, thanks to the popular health policy, all members of society are devoted to socialist construction with physical strength.

Indeed, the living led by our people who raise their creativity, take part in labor activity, and bring their rewarding living to flower amid the popular policy and consideration of the party and state is the most valuable and happiest living that is suitable to human nature. So, our own style of socialism that guarantees such living is the most superior socialism in the world.

It is thanks to the sagacious leadership of the party and leader and thanks to the fact that the great man-centered chuche idea is assumed as guidelines that superior socialism in which men's creative nature has been satisfactorily embodied has been built in our country.

The chuche idea which has been established and is being brilliantly embodied by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the great ideology that illuminates the most correct path of realizing men's essential demands.

It is thanks to the fact that the chuche idea is assumed as the guidelines for the party and state activity that our socialism radiates its rays as a socialism that satisfactorily embodies not only the people's independent demands, but also their creative demands.

We should more deeply understand the superiority of our own style of socialism in which the chuche idea is embodied and struggle to consummate the socialist cause of chuche more vigorously than ever.

Applying 'Advantages of Socialism' Viewed

SK1005113591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 10 May 91

["A Main Factor in Bringing Advantages of Socialism into Full Play"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says the advantages of socialism of our own style are being brought into full play as the popular masses' consciousness of independence and their creative ability increase.

The main factor in bringing the advantages of socialism of our own style into full play lies in constantly enhancing the creative ability of the popular masses because it makes people more powerful beings and it provides a guarantee of increasing the creative role of the popular masses, the author of the article notes, and continues:

Creative ability means man's capacity of transforming nature and society.

Only when man has creative ability, can he transform nature and society to meet his desire for independence.

One of the essential advantages of socialism of our own style is that it is a society which gives full scope to the creative role of the popular masses. What is important in enhancing their creative role is to increase their creative capabilities.

Our style socialism fully provides the people with an independent and creative life. All our people enjoy a political life, cultural life and material life congenial to the nature of social being.

What is important in improving the independent and creative life is for the people to arm themselves with the consciousness of independence and, at the same time, to acquire creative ingenuity.

KCNA Review of 10 May Pyongyang Press

SK1005052591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 10 May 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received credentials from the newly appointed Nigerian ambassador e.p. to the DPRK.

NODONG SINMUN carries a letter of thanks to President Kim Il-song from Pierre Cornillon, secretary general of the Interparliamentary Union, leaving Korea.

Foreign media reported that President Kim Il-song received Premier Li Peng of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, says the paper.

Carried in the paper is a message of greetings from the Central Committee of the United Nepal Communist Party (Marxist and Leninist) to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on the occasion of the birthday of President Kim Il-song.

The message of greetings of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the 11th Congress of the German Communist Party is published in the paper.

Printed in the paper is an article on the wise guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in strengthening the party cells, the basic organizations of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The paper says that Kimjongilia, an immortal flower, which won special prize and gold medal at the 12th international flower show in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, is drawing attention of many visitors. Papers carry accounts of the start of rice-transplanting in the countryside and editorials calling for finishing rice-transplanting qualitatively in the right season by concentrating all efforts on it.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article entitled "To Constantly Increase Creativity of the Popular Masses Is Important Factor of Bringing Advantages of Socialism Into Play".

It is reported in the press that the Indian president met with the DPRK Government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok and the Egyptian president received the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The press informs the readers that the soccer team of the North side returned to Pyongyang from Seoul after playing an appraisal match in Seoul for selecting the players for the unified Korea team.

Carried in NODONG SINMUN is a letter sent by the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea to the Korean Students Committee and organisations of overseas Korean students for a grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas. Also seen in the daily is a reply letter of the Korean Students Committee to Chondaehyop.

According to the daily, inaugural ceremonies for the "International Solidarity March for Supporting the Reunification of Korea", demonstrations and signature campaigns were held in Denmark and Finland.

Highlighted in the press is news that some 200,000 South Korean people held all-people rallies and demonstrations on May 9 on the occasion of the "day of dissolving the Democratic Liberal Party", about 600,000 students staged strikes that day and the brutal murder of student Kang Kyong-tae was denounced at home and abroad. Also included in the press is the statement made public by the spokesman for the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea denouncing the murder of the union chairman of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. by the South Korean authorities.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of ground and aerial military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities and carries an article branding the 90-odd-day joint military exercises "Team Spirit 91" as an adventurous play with fire which posed a grave threat to peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

The daily carries a summary of "The United States Takes North Korea as Next Target of Aggression", an article of the Belgian paper SOLIDARIRE.

MINJU CHOSON prints the first installment of its reporter's travelogue on the Yanbian Korean autonomous region of China.

The press reports that Marshal of the Soviet Union Victor Kulikov said no one should be idle and indolent as long as there is the danger of war, feuds among nationalities are being aggravated in the Soviet Union and the chairman of the deputies group "Soyuz" of the Soviet Union called for the proclamation of an emergency state throughout the country.

It is reported in the press that the Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN exposed that Japanese were on board U.S. minesweepers during the Korean war and an emergency state was declared in riot-torn Washington.

North Korea

Anti-Kim Il-song Faction Sends Note to Japan

SK0905134191 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 9 May 91

[By reporter Yi Chun-pal]

[Text] A message, timed with today's rally [for Korean reunification], was sent to the Preparatory Committee for Forming an Anti-Kim Il-song Interim Government, proving that such a trend, flaring up in North Korea to topple the Kim Il-song system, is true and is organizationally developed.

The message demonstrates the will of the figures against the Kim Il-song dictatorial system and appeals for the support of overseas compatriots.

[Begin recording of Yi Kwang, chairman of the Union for Korean Reunification in Japan] This message was addressed to the Preparatory Committee for Forming an Anti-Kim Il-song Interim Government and was received via facsimile at 1800 yesterday. [end recording]

Mr. Yi Kwang said that the anti-Kim Il-song interim government will be formed by July with the participation of 45 overseas compatriots representatives, including 20 antigovernment people in North Korea, seven people in Japan, five people in the United States, and five people in the Soviet Union, China, and Europe.

Pointing out that, in order to legally take the assets of the Korean residents in Japan, Kim Il-song and his son are expediting the normalization of diplomatic relations with Japan, he reveals that he is opposed to normalizing Japanese-North Korean diplomatic relations as long as Kim Il-song lives.

North Urged To Resume Stalled Red Cross Talks

SK1005055691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0522 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea urged North Korea Friday to resume the stalled inter-Korean Red Cross talks, as early as possible in May.

The Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) President Kim Sang-hyop told Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of North Korea's Central Committee of Red Cross Society, that he had not received an answer to his letter of April 2 calling for resumption of the 11th talks in early May.

Kim said it was unfortunate 10 million members of separated families living on both sides of the border could not have reunion when table tennis and soccer players, lawmakers and musicians of the two sides got together lately in Seoul, Pyongyang and Japan.

"Red Cross officials of both sides should come to the table unconditionally as soon as possible," Kim said in a telephone message to Yi.

South and North Korea arranged a reunion of 50 people and the exchange of 50-member performers in September 1985, but have never been able to agree on a second reunion.

'Secret Nuclear Agreement' With U.S. Alleged

SK1005022091 Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean May 91 pp 114-131

[Article by Yu Yong-won: "The Secret Nuclear Agreement Between the ROK and the United States"]

[Text]**Nuclear Provision of the ROK-U.S. Joint Operational Plan]**

Nuclear weapons: A weapon whose formidable destructive power is actually not what we envision. A weapon which we imagine is able to, regardless of size, send one good-sized city flying off the face of the earth with just one round. A weapon about which Hanyang University professor Yi Yong-hui sarcastically remarked that Korean citizens were stuck somewhat interested in four things and too interested in three other things. [samu samkwa].

Professor Yi claims that Koreans are uninformed, apathetic, insensitive, and not nationalistic in their views on nuclear weapons, while being overly confident in human reason, the precision of machines, and military power. Yi asserts that this is true even about the nuclear weapons of U.S. Forces Korea [USFK], weapons he calls "an issue of our people."

In the past, even mentioning the word was regarded as taboo. Today as before, we cannot know whether or not nuclear weapons exist in Korea. If they exist, there is no way of knowing which weapons, where, and how many are deployed here. Considering this fact alone, USFK's nuclear weapons are an infringement on Korea's sovereignty as well as damaging to our national esteem.

It is known that ROK forces are not allowed to view the portion of the Korean peninsula defense operational plan [OPLAN] concerning nuclear weapons. This portion of the plan regulates the use of those weapons in case of emergency. If that is true, then USFK nuclear weapons are both an extraneous problem of no relation to us as well as a subject of extraterritoriality.

However, in the course of gathering this story, I confirmed the existence of myriad efforts to secure Korea's rights to USFK nuclear weapons, and also learned of some minimum success in this area. The issue of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command [CFC] OPLAN as well as that of a secret agreement apply to this.

OPLAN 5027: The ROK-U.S. forces' defense plan for the Korean peninsula. The following provision appears in the fire employment section of the OPLAN:

"Both the ROK and U.S. forces can, as needed, request the use of nuclear weapons."

Within the OPLAN is a "nuclear annex," which is more detailed in its explanation than the above regulation. This annex, which is approximately 150 lines [chok], contains regulations on command and control, unit employment, transport custody responsibility, and target types. Both the annex and the OPLAN itself are written in Hangul and English, and both ROK and U.S. forces maintain copies containing the same exact contents.

Although it is known that the ROK forces cannot view the nuclear annex, responsible ROK officers are said to know its contents. Since the nuclear annex does not refer to the deployment of nuclear weapons, one cannot know whether or not nuclear weapons exist on the Korean peninsula simply by reading the annex.

Within the ROK forces, division-level units and above may request the use of tactical nuclear weapons. Tactical nuclear weapons are generally those weapons which have destructive power below 20 KT (comparable to the destructive power of 20,000 tons TNT), a yield similar to the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

If the use of nuclear weapons is requested by a ROK division, this request is forwarded from the division to corps, CFC, the ROK- U.S. Security Council [hanmi anbo hyopuihoi] (both countries' defense ministers), and then to both countries' presidents, where approval is decided. Ultimately, the approval of both countries' presidents must be obtained before nuclear weapons are used. There are no stipulations, however, governing what would happen should there be a difference of opinion between the two presidents. There is no stipulation stating that the approval of the Korean president is absolutely necessary.

The issue of approval by both countries' presidents has been the focus of attention, as it is related to Korea's sovereignty. Critics, centered around dissidents and opposition figures, have raised questions about the degree to which the Korean president's intentions would be reflected in the use of nuclear weapons. They insist that the U.S. President can force the use of nuclear weapons even in spite of a Korean president's opposition.

Korean President Must Approve for Use To Be Possible

Military officials and university professors alike responded negatively on critics' claims that the U.S. President could override a Korean president's opposition on the use of nuclear weapons. Yu Pyong-hyon (age 66), former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, raised strong doubts about these claims, stating, "Korea has grown to the point that we indeed do have sovereignty, and our national power cannot be ignored. Could the United States really use nuclear weapons in defiance of Korean opposition?" He went on to unequivocally state, "Nuclear weapons cannot be used without the consent of our president."

One university professor also pointed out, "Nuclear weapons entail an extraordinary political burden. The United States could not use a weapon which has not been used since World War II in defiance of Korean opposition ."

There has been conjecture that either a secret agreement or undocumented items of understanding concerning both assurances and approvals for the use of nuclear weapons exists between the ROK and U.S. presidents. It was presumed that included within such an agreement, the United States guaranteed the use of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula as needed, with the consent of Korea absolutely necessary when nuclear weapons are used. It was surmised that within the items of understanding, Korea could request minimal information on these weapons when necessary. Information, that is, detailing at least whether or not nuclear weapons were deployed in Korea, even if the number of weapons deployed and their location was not given. The items of understanding are also assumed to state that the United States, when requested, would provide this information.

Even if such a secret agreement existed, only an extremely small minority of personnel, such as the presidents and defense ministers of the two countries, could know. Most experts with limited access to intelligence have concluded that no secret agreement exists. One expert well-versed in nuclear weapons stated the following:

"In the early 1970's, anxious over the withdrawal of the U.S. 7th Infantry Division, Korea was frustrated in its attempts to gain a definitive, documented answer on the use of nuclear weapons from the United States. Documents confirm this point. However, it is difficult to find any indications that a secret agreement has been concluded since then."

This individual, who denied the possibility of the existence of a secret agreement, added, "It seems that at least at the supreme commander level (Korean president, minister of defense), there are items of understanding which stipulate that Korea receives information on the presence or absence of USFK nuclear weapons."

Individuals who had been deeply involved in national security policy matters responded differently, however. This reporter met one official very familiar with USFK's nuclear strategy and nuclear weapons. The following are his answers to some questions.

[Yu Yong-won] Is there a secret agreement?

[Unidentified official] Although I know whether or not there is one, I will not say.

[Yu] It is said that undocumented items of understanding exist...

[Official] I will only say that there has been talk concerning verbal items of understanding.

[Yu] Would such an agreement still be valid?

[Official] Mere verbal items of understanding would probably lack binding force...

[Yu] Let's talk about President Pak [Chong-hui's] style of doing business. Pak was a very thorough individual. With U.S. Presidents constantly changing, there is just no way that he would have been confident of U.S. guarantees with only a verbal promise.

Although this individual refused to comment any further, he gave a strong impression that a secret agreement did exist. Yu Pyong-hyon, who served as the deputy commander of ROK-U.S. CFC, declared "I will not comment" concerning the issue of a secret agreement. Another former chief presidential secretary who had been deeply involved in security issues also said "no comment."

Looking at all of these officials' statements, the conclusion is that some type of conventionalized items of understanding exist, and there is even a possibility of the existence of a secret agreement.

The existence of such agreements or items of understanding would tend to eliminate part of the concern that the United States might use nuclear weapons in opposition to Korean intentions. A common sense conclusion would be that such concerns materializing are very unlikely.

Nuclear Warheads Known to be Deployed in USFK

Nomenclature Notes	Delivery Means	Yield (KT)	Deployed/Not Deployed
W33	203-mm Gun	1-10	
W45	Vehicle/Aircraft	1-15	Unconfirmed
Nuclear Mine			
W48	155-mm Gun	0.1	
W54	Infantryman	0.01-1	Unconfirmed
Nuclear Backpack			
W61	Aircraft	10-500	
W70	Lance Missile	1-100	Unconfirmed

Critics, while comparing Korea to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), have linked the authority to approve the use of nuclear weapons and the receipt of information on the deployment of those weapons with the issue of Korea's sovereignty. They point out that Korea is treated unfairly compared to NATO, as far as nuclear weapons are concerned, as in the ROK-U.S. executive agreement.

As these critics point out, Korea tends to be relatively restricted when compared with NATO. NATO member countries receive official notice of information on the location, types, and numbers of nuclear weapons deployed on U.S. bases within their own countries.

According to the bilateral Program of Cooperation (POC) stipulated in the U.S. atomic energy law, which was revised in 1958, the "nuclear surety program" applies. The surety program is a means of certifying personnel who are involved in duties related to nuclear weapons by having them undergo a rigorous investigation. Although such a system exists in Greece, Great Britain, Canada, the Netherlands, West Germany, Belgium, and Italy, there is no such program in Korea.

Because of this program, NATO countries receive information on U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in their own country, and joint nuclear operations are possible using qualified personnel.

In spite of this preferential treatment for NATO, the ROK-U.S. items of understanding, whose existence is highly possible, signify that Korea maintains a minimum of information and sovereignty concerning USFK weapons. If a secret agreement also exists, then our say in nuclear issues becomes even greater.

Rumors of Between 151 and 1000 Nuclear Weapons

Another item which has captured our attention along with the matter of a secret agreement is the issue of whether nuclear weapons are deployed, their types, and their numbers. In accordance with the U.S. policy of "not officially confirming nor denying" (NCND: Neither Confirm Nor Deny), there has been no official confirmation of the existence or absence of USFK nuclear weapons. Until now, the existence of these weapons has been confirmed either by roundabout expressions by U.S. officials or through the analysis of foreign subject matter experts.

The most recent analysis to emerge from experts was the claims made in the book "Nuclear Battlefield," written in 1985 by Arkin and Fieldhouse ["Nuclear Battlefields: Global Links in the Arms Race," by William M. Arkin and Richard W. Fieldhouse]. These two individuals have been making estimates on nuclear weapons throughout the world for some time. In this book, the two revealed that USFK has stored a total of 151 tactical nuclear weapons in Korea, including 60 nuclear bombs at Kunsan U.S. Air Force Base, 40 nuclear shells for 8-inch artillery, 30 nuclear shells for 155-mm howitzers, and 21 nuclear land mines. These figures are judged to be highly reliable, being based on both released and unreleased documents from the U.S. Department of Energy and Department of Defense.

Earlier, in 1976, a report was produced by the U.S. Defense Intelligence Center [mikuk pangui chongbo sento]. This report has been extensively quoted even in domestic professional writings on the subject and is extremely well known. This organization calculated the number of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula by multiplying the number of weapons systems capable of delivering nuclear weapons by the number of warheads which each system could deliver. This figure ranges form 661 to 686.

This number is already outdated, however, as it includes such weapons systems capable of delivering nuclear weapons as the USFK's F-4 Phantom, the Honest John surface-to-surface missile [SSM], the Sergeant SSM, and the Nike and Hercules Missiles. Although USFK currently possesses the Honest John, Nike, Hercules, and Sergeant, the Air Force's F-4 has been replaced by the F-16. The only significance of all this research is that it was the first systematic estimate on the number of nuclear weapons deployed in Korea.

The eminent U.S. columnist Jack Anderson in a 1984 article for THE WASHINGTON POST began a flurry of reporting on nuclear land mines when he wrote that among the 21 such nuclear land mines deployed in the Pacific region, the majority were buried within Korea's Demilitarized Zone [DMZ]. The following year, U.S. NBC TV sparked people's imagination by reporting that nuclear backpacks (field portable special atomic demolition munitions), which special forces personnel could carry on their back, were deployed in Uijongbu.

No documents exist in which Korean organizations or academics have independently estimated the number of nuclear weapons aside from the assertions outlined above. North Korea has insisted that there are 1000 nuclear weapons stored in South Korea, a much larger figure than other estimates. Although it is impossible to confirm just how North Korea arrived at this figure, it appears as though it has taken the highest figure to come out of the United States and use it for propaganda. During U.S. House hearings in 1975, one representative mentioned the figure of 1000.

United States Withdraws Large Number of Nuclear Weapons in Late 1970's, But Apparently No Nuclear Land Mines Were There

Even if 151 is the most accurate of these estimates, it is merely an estimate of six years ago. Confirming the current status of nuclear weapons in Korea is nearly impossible. Peter Hayes is an Australian who is an expert on nuclear weapons in the Pacific region. He published a shocking thesis entitled "The American Nuclear Dilemma in Korea." Even in this thesis, Peter Hayes did not reveal the number of nuclear weapons deployed here.

Experts point out that even if nuclear weapons are deployed in Korea, the trend is probably towards reducing their numbers. The United States already conducted a massive removal of nuclear weapons from Korea in the latter half of the 1970's. According to one expert on ROK-U.S. relations, most nuclear weapons which had been deployed on U.S. bases in Korea were withdrawn in accordance with President Carter's public promise to withdraw troops from the peninsula.

Another factor leading to the reduction in USFK nuclear weapons is the fact that because of advancements in tactical nuclear weapons delivery means and because of improvements in their accuracy, there is no longer a need to deploy these weapons on foreign bases and thus incur the resultant risks. The Tomahawk cruise missile, which demonstrated its power during the Gulf war, can be fired from an aircraft, surface vessel, or submarine. This greatly reduces the risks involved in deploying ground-based nuclear weapons overseas, making the Tomahawk one of the United States' favorite tactical nuclear weapons.

Among the tactical nuclear weapons mentioned as being deployed in South Korea are the nuclear land mine, nuclear backpack, nuclear artillery shells, and nuclear bombs. The formal name of the nuclear land mine is the Atomic Demolition Munition (ADM). Since Jack Anderson mentioned this weapon in his column, the Medium Atomic Demolition Munition (MADM) is the nuclear land mine whose presence on the Korean peninsula has become an established fact. This land mine is buried in the ground like regular land mines; however, it is detonated by remote control equipment and is transported either by vehicle or by helicopter. It has a yield of 1 to 15 KT, and comes in three different types.

Nuclear weapons yield is expressed both in KT and in MT. One KT is equivalent to the explosive power of 1000 tons of TNT, while one MT is equal to 1 million tons. The basic measure in researching the destructive effects of nuclear weapons is 20 KT. This is because 20 KT was the yield of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

Let us imagine what would happen if a 20-KT nuclear warhead exploded above Seoul City Hall. The blast, heat, and radiation resulting from a nuclear explosion is what makes nuclear weapons so destructive. The first thing Seoul city residents would witness would be a bright flash of light. People who witnessed this flash of light within a 5-kilometer radius of City Hall, which includes most of the

Kangbuk [north of the Han River] area, would be permanently blinded by retinal burn.

The fireball, having transformed into the shape of a ball, would emit a blast (pressure wave) and heat, reducing the surrounding area to ashes. Buildings within a 1.5-kilometer radius, to include Seoul Station, the Unified Government Building, South Gate Market, Saeun Arcade, and Myongdong, would be almost completely destroyed. The steel frames of those buildings constructed with reinforced concrete would remain standing. However, because many of these buildings are adorned with glass, there would be many victims of flying glass fragments. In Hiroshima, 86 percent of the people within a 1- kilometer radius of the explosion were killed instantly.

Large fires broke out in Hiroshima because of the many wooden buildings there. Because numerous buildings in Seoul are constructed with reinforced concrete, the city is not as susceptible to fire as Hiroshima was. Nevertheless, large-scale fires will break out.

Damage from glass fragments will extend for a 4-kilometer radius from the explosion. This would include the Sinchon, Yongsan, and Sinsol-tong areas. With the fierce blast from the explosion turning them into "flying daggers" with speeds of 90 kph, glass fragments will penetrate clothing and imbed themselves in human bodies.

Although nuclear fallout is greatly influenced by wind direction and speed, all of Seoul will suffer damage from it. Because of the wind blast, heat, and radiation, 68,000 citizens—or one-fourth of the total population of Hiroshima—died immediately from the blast. Although it is difficult to calculate the number of deaths which would occur in Seoul, it is not difficult to predict that the number would be extraordinary, given the much greater population density and large mobile population of Seoul. The damage becomes worse when one considers how many victims will gradually appear as a result of nuclear radiation. Even when considering merely the destructive power yielded by a nuclear land mine, which weighs only 200 kg, one can get a feel for the yield of nuclear weapons. The mini-series which appeared on American television several years ago entitled "The Day After" gave a shocking portrayal of the disastrous scene which would result from a nuclear explosion.

Nuclear land mines are buried along expected North Korean attack units' invasion routes. By making enormous craters in these routes, these land mines are known to be very effective weapons for delaying the southern advance of North Korea's mechanized units. Unlike the definitive reporting and analysis of U.S. media and scholars, high-ranking ROK generals are extremely skeptical of the deployment and practicality of these weapons.

One reserve four-star general asserted, "People who constantly talk about the deployment of nuclear land mines on the Korean peninsula generally have absolutely no knowledge of nuclear weapons systems or tactics." The general pointed out that when the nuclear land mines were first developed in the 1960's, they were the topic of discussion for some time between ROK and U.S. forces. However, no one ever proceeded to the stage of actually deploying them.

Another reserve high-ranking general officer stated, "During joint ROK-US training exercises, the use of tactical nuclear weapons, such as nuclear shells or nuclear bombs, was hypothesized, but I never saw nuclear land mines being used." If indeed nuclear land mines were buried near the DMZ as reported by U.S. media, then there is no reason why they would not have been used during exercises.

Another key factor which excludes the possibility of nuclear land mines being emplaced along the DMZ is the large possibility of them being captured by the enemy. Even if they are buried there, their low efficacy is also a factor.

1983—Nuclear Artillery Shells, Bombs Exist in South Korea

Since nuclear land mines, similar to regular land mines, cannot be fired from the air or by artillery shell, either special forces units or engineers must bury the mine and then flee the area. U.S. forces would be directly in charge of the mines, because there would be a possibility of ROK soldiers pilfering the nuclear land mines if they were tasked with the mission of emplacing them. It is doubtful whether the United States would indeed undertake such a mission, being conscious of U.S. casualties. It is even more questionable when one considers that other means of attack outside of nuclear land mines have higher degrees of accuracy.

In a book published in 1988 by Minchungsa [The Masses' Publishers] entitled "Nuclear Weapons Out!" [Haekmugi Kara], a reference was made to nuclear land mines. This book is a compilation of the writings of Peter Hayes, Rubajaruski, and Waldon Bellow [all spellings as published] by the Korean Christian Social Issues Research Institute [hanguk kidokkyo sahoe munjae yongu- won]. This book attempted a comprehensive analysis of nuclear weapons systems and their operations and command systems on the Korean peninsula.

The part of the book on nuclear land mines, however, seems far from realistic. The book reveals, based on an interview with an engineer in charge of nuclear land mines who allegedly was stationed in Korea in 1968, that Kimpo Airport and the Han River bridges are targets of these land mines. This individual visited Seoul in 1988 and recorded his sentiments about these nuclear drop points (ground zero) as he wandered about the Han River bridges.

Even if these claims were true in the 1960's, with the development of state-of-the-art weaponry and revisions to ROK-U.S. defense strategy, these statements are far from the truth today. A smart bomb is capable of delivering high-yield explosives of up to 900 kg. Even if such a smart bomb is unable to uproot the pillars of the Han River bridges, at the very least it can completely destroy the bridges.

In 1973, USFK's Korean peninsula strategy changed from its previous phased retreat strategy to a forward defense strategy. Thus, the possibility of using tactical nuclear weapons in the Seoul vicinity virtually disappeared. Combined ROK-U.S. forces would block as much as possible a North Korean attack north of Seoul, making it impossible to either escalate the war with an immediate nuclear attack, or to withdraw from a prearranged defensive line.

Considering how much the city has expanded, even three corps of North Korean forces would not be enough to occupy Seoul. It appears that North Korea would therefore attempt to surround rather than occupy Seoul. Therefore there would be no need to go as far as destroying Kimpo Airport and the Han River bridges using nuclear weapons.

The odds are thus extremely slim that nuclear land mines exist or that they would be used within Korea, even though at one time the deployment and consideration of using nuclear land mines in Korea may have existed.

Nuclear backpacks are tactical nuclear weapons which one infantryman can carry on his back. Their formal name is special atomic demolition munition. Although the weight of the nuclear warhead is only 26.3 kg, it can have the yield of from 10 to 1000 tons of TNT. Some NATO countries have received training on the use of this weapon. It appears, however, that like the nuclear land mine, the use of the nuclear backpack would be difficult on the Korean peninsula.

There are two nuclear shells which can be fired by artillery guns, one for the 155-mm gun and one for the 233-mm (8-inch) gun. The W48 model nuclear warhead fired by the 155-mm howitzer gun has a yield of 0.1 KT. In the book written in 1983 by three nuclear authorities, including Arkin, entitled "American Nuclear Military Power and Capabilities," it is revealed that these two types of warheads are deployed in Korea.

Majority Estimate "No Nuclear Weapons in Korea"

One nuclear weapons expert opined, "This book can be regarded as fact, because it was compiled by nuclear weapons authorities using both released and unreleased data from the U.S. Government."

This book also reveals that the W33-model 203-mm nuclear shell is also deployed in Korea. The W33 has a relatively powerful yield of 5 to 10 KT. If a 10-KT nuclear warhead is air-detonated at a height of 100 meters, the blast and heat would be so violent that tanks within a 230-meter radius of the explosion would be destroyed. Vehicles and houses within a 200-meter radius would be completely destroyed, while houses within a 2-kilometer radius would be partially destroyed. Both the 155-mm and 203-mm guns which ROK forces possess can fire this shell.

Nuclear bombs delivered by aircraft have the highest yield of any tactical nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula. The aforementioned book reveals that the B-61 nuclear bomb is deployed in Korea. The B-61 has a yield of 10 to 500 KT and comes in five types. Since there is no limitation on its range, this nuclear weapon has the longest range among those of USFK. Although it could be effective at attacking facilities in North Korea's rear areas, such as military goods factories and logistics bases, the possibility of this weapon being used is slim.

This bomb is designed so that it may be dropped by F-4 or F-16 aircraft flying at an ultra low altitude of 30 meters, the planes thus not appearing on radar as they fly in low to attack their targets in North Korea. Both the F-4 and F-16 aircraft which the ROK Air Force [ROKAF] possesses can carry this bomb; however, because they lack the special adaptor needed to affix the bomb to the plane, ROKAF planes cannot conduct a nuclear attack.

There has been no reporting in foreign media on the deployment of nuclear warheads for the Lance missile in Korea. Even so, Lance missiles have been an object of attention in this area. The Lance is the only SSM within the USFK inventory capable of delivering nuclear weapons and can also carry the neutron bomb, which would be effective in attacking North Korea's armored units.

Compared to regular nuclear bombs, the blast and heat of neutron bombs is weak, while the radiation is strong. The neutron bomb is designed to inflict casualties on tankers who are protected from blast and heat waves by their thick armored shell. Even though it is inhumane in that people are its main target, it is an effective weapon.

The Lance missile is capable of delivering regular nuclear warheads with yields ranging from 1 to 100 KT, although it can only carry 1-KT yield neutron bombs. On the battlefield, however, a 1-KT neutron bomb has more human casualty inflicting capability than a 10-KT regular nuclear warhead.

One Lance missile battalion was deployed in USFK in 1986. The battalion possesses 109 missile warheads; it is not confirmed whether these include nuclear warheads or not. The unit is attached to Camp Stanley in Uijongbu.

I was unable to confirm whether any of the tactical nuclear weapons discussed above currently exist in Korea. Many Korean scholars and military officials actually believe that they do NOT exist. Professor Yi Ho-chae (age 54) of Koryo University indicated that it was highly possible that these nuclear weapons were withdrawn in the 1980's.

North Korean Forces Strategy To Intermingle Among Both ROK and U.S. Forces

"Nuclear deterrence was needed in the 1970's, when South Korea suffered a clear inferiority in military power. In the 1980's it became clear that South Korea could block a southern invasion by the North even without nuclear weapons, as it was estimated that South Korean military power approached a level 80-90 percent of North Korea's. With exercises like Team Spirit conducted each year, it seems that it is highly probable that nuclear weapons have been withdrawn, and that the use of nuclear weapons as an option has, in actuality, been excluded," Yi stated.

Sogang University Professor Yi Sang-man (age 53) strongly emphasized that there is no reason to deploy nuclear weapons in South Korea.

"I firmly believe that with the advancements in tactical nuclear weapons systems which can be delivered by the navy and air force, there is no longer a need to deploy nuclear weapons on South Korean soil, where both their maintenance and security are difficult. Moreover, the United States classifies Korea as a grey zone. Korea is a country where a possibility exists that in an emergency, U.S. weapons could exceed the levels of those of the enemy (primarily the Soviet Union). The United States, if possible, does not attempt to deploy nuclear weapons or state-of-the-art weaponry in grey zones such as these. Because the political burdens of using nuclear weapons are great, even the warnings of nuclear use against North Korea appear mostly to be empty threats."

From a somewhat different perspective, there are even those who believe that the question of whether there are nuclear weapons in Korea is not even an important issue. Yu Pyong-hyon emphasized that one must focus on the availability of nuclear weapons.

"U.S. aircraft stationed in Guam and at bases along the Pacific coast can deliver nuclear bombs to the Korean peninsula within a few hours. Even aircraft carriers with nuclear weapons on board can be dispatched to Korea's surrounding seas within a short time.

"There are many limitations to deploying nuclear weapons on land bases. Since the establishment of the ROK-U.S. CFC, ROK forces have overall control of the administration of ammunition storage facilities. Even ammunition dumps under the jurisdiction of the United States are staffed with Korean employees, leading to many difficulties in security maintenance. Because of this, no matter how hard U.S. forces work to keep their deployment a secret, as long as nuclear weapons are deployed on the ground, there are difficulties in maintaining secrecy. Additionally, it is also possible that the weapons could be captured by the enemy."

Yu also stressed, "There is therefore absolutely no reason for nuclear weapons to be deployed on Korean soil, and there is no need to dwell on this issue too much."

Both ROK and U.S. forces have become familiar with the defense plan for the Korean peninsula, and each year several joint exercises are conducted to ameliorate weaknesses in the plan. Team Spirit and Ulchi Focus are good examples of such exercises. Cases of hypothetical use of tactical nuclear weapons during these exercises are not rare.

Korean forces at the division level can request to higher echelons the use of nuclear weapons. Permission is received after the request undergoes an approval process. It usually takes several hours to obtain approval. The means of attack and the warhead's yield are determined by higher units (CFC and above). One high-ranking reserve general informed me that Korean forces can request the use of tactical nuclear weapons in the 0.5 to 20 KT yield range.

No Possibility of Nuclear Attack on North Korean Cities

Cases where ROK-U.S. combined forces would request the use of nuclear weapons are if defensive lines have been or are greatly threatened to be penetrated by a North Korean surprise attack. ROK forces believe that the main power of North Korean attack units would be their mechanized units. There are eight main routes of attack, including the Cholwon Valley area and the Uijongbu-Munsan corridor, and three auxiliary routes, for a total of eleven routes.

North Korea would attack in waves, led by mechanized forces, concentrating on capturing vulnerable locations. It is inevitable that portions of our defense line would be penetrated. Because North Korea fears the use of tactical nuclear weapons more than anything else, North Korea would attempt to intermingle their troops among both ROK and U.S. forces.

Should North Korean forces intermix with ROK and U.S. forces, we could not use tactical nuclear weapons as we wish because of the enormous destructive effect of these weapons. This is one situation which combined ROK-U.S. forces commanders fear.

The nuclear weapons which combined ROK-U.S. forces would use in a worst case would be artillery shells, bombs, and nuclear bombs. Among these, nuclear artillery shells would be preferred, because their yield is not great and their residual radiation is small, thus minimizing negative side effects.

Should ROK-U.S. forces fail to block a southern advance of North Korean mechanized units threatening the city of Seoul, it is possible that neutron bombs would be used. ROK and U.S. forces train to receive prior warnings of nuclear use in order to protect soldiers from the flash and radioactive fallout when tactical nuclear weapons are used.

The strategy which has been adopted by combined ROK-U.S. forces is the Air-Land Battle concept, also known as "offensive defense." This strategy involves striking not only attacking North Korean units but also rear area command and communications systems, logistics bases, and supply systems in order to slice apart the spine of the attacking units bit by bit. This defense concept, made for the European battlefield, considers more positively the use of tactical nuclear weapons.

Although ROK and U.S. forces are developing this defensive plan further, the possibility of using nuclear weapons against the North Korean region, especially cities such as Pyongyang, is extremely slim. Not only would the efficacy of nuclear weapons be small because of the well-prepared underground evacuation facilities in Pyongyang, but it would also be difficult to avoid criticism of having bombed civilians. Attacks on North Korea's rear-area facilities would probably take the form of precision strikes using smart bombs.

Nuclear Operations Section of Eighth U.S. Army [EUSA]

Although the ROKAF does not conduct nuclear bombing training, it is known that USAFK does. It was officially confirmed in 1978 that the B-52 strategic bomber conducts regular flight training in Korea.

North Korea is considerably uneasy about this bovine monster, capable of carrying megaton-class, large nuclear bombs. North Korean pilots receive training that if they encounter the B-52, they should "knock the plane out of the sky, even if it means running head-on into it, since it is carrying nuclear weapons."

Unlike the air force, ROK artillery units conduct nuclear warhead firing training. Both the ROK forces' 155-mm and 8-inch guns can fire nuclear shells with a very simple adjustment. All they have to do is change a switch which normally points to conventional warhead to the side marked nuclear warhead.

Peter Hayes, after extensive research, disclosed the training, operations, and command systems of the ROK and U.S. forces for nuclear use that previously had been hidden behind a veil. He revealed the ROK and U.S. forces' contingency system for nuclear war through formal and informal documents, such as the USFK telephone book (1986 edition) and organizational functions manuals [chojik kinung kyobom], as well as interviews with officials concerned with such matters.

According to his report, EUSA has a "Nuclear Operations Planning Branch." This branch is organized into three sections. In the USFK "Organization and Functions Manual," it is stipulated, "[This office] analyzes nuclear targets, plans nuclear firing, and prepares nuclear contingency plans."

During the collection of information for this article, I was unable to confirm in the 1990 edition of the USFK telephone directory that I perused whether there was an organization similar to that which Hayes claims. All that appeared was that there is a "Nuclear Operations Branch" under the EUSA operations staff.

Hayes came to the conclusion in his report that although there is some type of system of cooperation established for nuclear use between ROK and U.S. forces, the United States does not provide important information to the ROK, and only gives thought to unilateral nuclear operations.

The question "are nuclear weapons really weapons which can be used?" has been asked since these weapons were first made. The answer to this question is closely related to nuclear weapons systems and strategy.

Weapons systems are generally made in response to a need that develops within a strategic framework. Thus, weapons systems are essentially a dependent variable of strategy. However, because of the incredibly extraordinary destructive power of nuclear weapons, it was the strategy itself which eventually was changed. Thus, the roles of the master and the servant were inverted.

In the beginning, the strategic nuclear weapons of the United States and the Soviet Union boasted an extraordinary destructive power reaching tens of megatons. Large cities of the opposing country were targeted. Since the accuracy of these weapons was poor, crude nuclear weapons with tremendous destructive power were made. The yields of these weapons were sufficient to instill fear in the enemy, serving the indispensable function of nuclear weapons, that of "deterrence."

USFK Weapons—Deterrence, Defensive Use

As the accuracy of nuclear weapons improved with developments in science and technology during the 1960's, both U.S. and Soviet systems became slimmer, as the yields of strategic nuclear weapons were reduced to the hundreds of kilotons to several megatons range. Multiple warhead missiles (MRV, MIRV) [multiple independently targeted reentry vehicle] that could carry several warheads on one missile were also developed. The main targets of both U.S. and Soviet missiles shifted from major cities to military targets, such as enemy missile sites.

The United States felt threatened by Warsaw Pact organization large-scale mechanized units, and thus worked on developing tactical nuclear weapons targeted against these units. Between the end of the 1950's and the beginning of the 1960's, the United States developed, in addition to nuclear artillery shells and bombs, rockets (Davy Crockett) and nuclear land mines, deploying them in places such as Western Europe. In the 1980's, the neutron bomb was in the limelight for some time, developed as an effective attack against mechanized units.

Within the United States, so-called "limited nuclear war theorists" became influential. These theorists claimed that a nuclear war on a limited scale was possible without resorting to an all-out, large-scale nuclear war. According to their hypothesis, tactical nuclear weapons were weapons which indeed could be used.

No matter how small a nuclear weapon's yield, it is still unknown whether a totally controlled war of the type "if you strike me weakly one time, I will strike you back weakly as well" is even possible, because the political and psychological ramifications of using nuclear weapons are so enormous.

Even if a limited nuclear war is possible in Europe, it is hard for this to be applicable to the Korean peninsula. Although the Warsaw Pact possesses nuclear weapons, North Korea does not.

Dissident figures as well as some scholars have claimed that there is a concern that the Korean peninsula would become a nuclear battlefield of the superpowers, squeezed in between the United States and the Soviet Union. North Korea has always made clear its position that: "If war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, it will certainly become a nuclear war. It will easily spread beyond the limits of Korea and could develop into a world-wide nuclear war."

In order for the Korean peninsula to become a stage of confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, USFK nuclear weapons would have to be aimed at the Soviet Union. However, among the nuclear weapons which USFK has, none of the strategic nuclear weapons have the range to strike the Soviet Union. Only F-16's, when serviced by in-flight refueling, could bomb even Vladivostok.

The Soviet Union, while ostensibly criticizing nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, actually yielded on their demand that the U.S. withdraw tactical nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula during negotiations over disposing theater nuclear weapons (INF), hinting that they did not regard the USFK nuclear weapons as a threatening factor to their own security. The Soviet Union has a large number of SS-20 medium-range ballistic missiles whose range covers the entire Korean peninsula. China also possesses ballistic missiles into which the whole of the Korean peninsula falls.

People who are concerned that a nuclear war would erupt on the Korean peninsula also insist that USFK nuclear weapons are offensive-use. It is not easy to estimate whether these weapons are for deterrence, defense, or offense. Seoul National University Professor Ha Yong-son analyzed, "They basically are for deterrence, defense when unavoidable." Attacking the enemy's rear area in accordance with the offensive defense strategy is not out of the question; however, when one takes into consideration the nuclear weapons system as well as the defensive strategy, it is evident that these nuclear weapons are not for offensive-use.

Even while under the stern glares of peripheral superpowers, there is almost no one who complains about the fact that nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula have become a central deterrent force against North Korea.

That North Korea is seriously conscious of these nuclear weapons is quite apparent in the fact that every time they make some type of claim toward South Korea, they raise the issue of USFK nuclear weapons. Their concern is also seen in the fact that they have made numerous underground facilities deep underground in Pyongyang. Although there may not be nuclear weapons in South Korea, and even if there were, these weapons might not be used, North Korea must prepare for the worse case. In this regard, the NCND policy is effective.

Even if one says that the deterrence of nuclear weapons is psychological, nuclear weapons would be unnecessary if South Korea's military force was capable of blocking a North Korean invasion. Thus the need for nuclear weapons depends on an appraisal of North-South military power.

In its National Defense White Paper, the Ministry of National Defense [MND] revealed that the combined strength of USFK and ROK forces is only 65 percent that of North Korea. In 1988, Professor Yi Yong-hui totally opposed this logic, claiming that South Korea's military power actually was superior to North Korea. This launched the debate over comparisons of North-South Korean military power. Although this debate eventually was dropped, it was meaningful in that it raised questions concerning traditional numerical analysis which ignored qualitative factors. It is true that even the MND acknowledges that South Korea is superior to North Korea in war-waging capability, which includes both military and economic power. There are still many individuals who believe that South Korean military power is inferior. With South Korea spending over twice as much annually on defense, however, and because of the chaotic state of North Korea's economy, it appears as though the military balance will shift to a more advantageous position for South Korea in the near future.

Emergence of Nuclear Weapon Withdrawal Theory

In order to evaluate military power, many factors must be considered together. These include not only manpower and numbers of weapons systems, but also qualitative factors such as employment capabilities of weapons systems. One source well versed on intelligence concerning North Korea made a notable comment on the actual state of North Korea's military manpower:

"Although North Korean manpower exceeds 1 million, routinely 100,000 to 400,000 of those men are used in factories. If North Korea intends to start a war, they must pull these soldiers out of the factories. There are also problems in North Korea's mechanized units, the backbone of their ground attack force.

"There are many older trucks within North Korea's mechanized forces. Odds are that they will not be able to keep up with the leading tanks, armored vehicles, and self-propelled artillery. If so, then the speed of advance of these mechanized units will probably be reduced, and they will not be able to exhibit their full capabilities.

"There are also many problems with North Korea's underground facilities. Moisture-proofing and air circulation equipment is most important in facilities like these. Because there is a shortage in North Korea of electricity which provides the power source for this equipment, it is not fully operational. North Korea is especially experiencing difficulties in maintaining equipment such as fighter aircraft, equipped with extensive electronics equipment which is sensitive to changes in environment."

In spite of the many strong points which North Korean forces enjoy, it is clear that these factors are hindrances to North Korea's military power.

Vice-Director Taylor of the conservative U.S. Center for Strategic International Studies (CSIS), made the claim that there is no need for the stationing of USFK troops or the deployment of nuclear weapons in Korea during a news conference held in March 1991 at the Press Center. He noted, "Two divisions of U.S. troops could rapidly be deployed to Korea to sufficiently handle a war should it break out, even without the strong need to station U.S. troops here." When asked whether a withdrawal of nuclear weapons might not lead Kim Il-song to an error in judgment, he replied:

"First, I do not think Kim Il-song and the generals and staff surrounding him are that stupid. They have no idea about the variety or number of nuclear weapons delivery systems we currently have. If there actually are nuclear weapons on Korean soil, all they are is an excessive surplus.

"Secondly, if there are nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, most of them would certainly be old, expensive to maintain, and dangerous to handle.

"Thirdly, if there are actually tactical nuclear weapons in Korea, then they would be a political burden, the presence of nuclear weapons having been one of the origins of the anti-American movement."

These claims by Taylor drew attention since they come at a time when North Korea's nuclear development is becoming an international issue. One university professor analyzed Taylor's comments as a negotiation card with North Korea. Taylor believes that the United States has concluded that North Korea actually has the capability and will to develop nuclear weapons. It is possible that Taylor's comments are a response to the precondition which North Korea has set for the inspection of its nuclear facilities—the call for withdrawal of USFK nuclear weapons.

In March 1991, the ROK-U.S. Relations Committee [hanmi kwangye uiwonhoi], formed by prominent ROK and U.S. personalities in 1989, proposed the withdrawal of USFK nuclear weapons from Korea, causing a quiet stir. Joint Chairman Kim Kyong-won (age 55), former ROK ambassador to Korea, in a recent interview in the U.S. weekly current affairs magazine "NEWSWEEK," clearly reconfirmed their proposal for the withdrawal of nuclear weapons.

Kim stated, "A North Korean attack is being effectively deterred and can be defended against even without nuclear weapons," claiming, "It is desirable that the United States make an exception to its NCND policy and open the road for the ROK Government to formally clarify that there are no nuclear weapons in South Korea."

When one looks at this series of moves, it seems as though these three countries—South Korea, the United States, and North Korea—are essentially bargaining while carrying out intensive psychological warfare over the issue of North Korea's nuclear development. It may be that even without having nuclear weapons in Korea, the United States and South Korea are using those weapons as a bargaining chip in order to stop North Korea's nuclear development. Then again, it may be that North Korea, even while actually lacking the ability to manufacture nuclear weapons, is using the threat to go nuclear as a bargaining chip to pursue the withdrawal of USFK nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula. As this trend continues, there are indications that USFK's nuclear weapons and North Korea's nuclear development may quite possibly become bartered away, just as in compensation trade.

As the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula becomes a focus of attention, calls for "making Korea a nuclear-free zone" are slowly raising their head and coming to the fore. The calls for denuclearization began with the proposals of a handful of scholars in the United States and Japan. The Soviets also enunciated their positive concept of denuclearization in the 1980's as part of their peace offensive. Since proposing its own denuclearization plan for the Korean peninsula in 1978, North Korea has been continually carrying out a propaganda offensive.

The Concept of Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula

Professor Yi Ho-chae has devoted much interest to the issue of peace on the Korean peninsula. "Among the proposals so far for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the Soviet proposal has been the most concrete while the North Korean proposal is disjointed," Yi claims. He points out, "North Korea's call for the withdrawal of nuclear weapons has been habitual chatter. They are interested in the withdrawal of the USFK: it does not seem like they have a deep interest or clear conception about denuclearization itself."

An 8 April 1991 CHOSON ILBO editorial entitled "Now Is The Time For Denuclearization" emphasized that at this time, with North Korea's nuclear development an established fact, there are only two alternatives to choose from. One is for North Korea to halt nuclear development immediately, and submit to the inspection of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], while the other is for both the ROK and United States to declare the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, with the United States continuing to provide a nuclear umbrella from outside the peninsula.

As indicated by Choe Yong, a former professor of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, the Tomahawk cruise missile—which can be launched from aircraft, surface vessel, and submarine—can attack targets much more accurately than ground-based tactical nuclear weapons. These missiles, together with USAF aircraft located at bases in Japan, the Philippines, and Guam, can fulfill the nuclear umbrella role within several hours.

As though to discourage these claims, U.S. Ambassador Gregg clarified his position opposing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula on 9 April 1991. His logic is that denuclearization has no meaning since the Korean peninsula is located within the range of Soviet and Chinese ballistic missiles. Military officials also have a similar opinion concerning calls for the denuclearization of Korea.

However, the United States also has nuclear weapons in the vicinity of Korea equal to those of the Soviet Union and China. The logic that nuclear weapons MUST be deployed on South Korean soil in order to protect South Korea from the Soviet and Chinese nuclear threat does not stand. Accordingly, cooperation of peripheral superpowers such as the Soviet Union, China, and the United States is demanded as a necessary condition for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Experts also predicted that even if North Korea's nuclear development was not an issue, nuclear weapons in South Korea would leave along with the troops in accordance with the phased withdrawal of the USFK, if there are indeed such weapons in country now.

As a result of the Gulf war, military experts have analyzed that the United States will shift away from permanently stationing troops overseas, depending instead on a system centered on rapidly deployable forces which could be quickly sent to areas where disputes arise. Also, rather than relying on land-based, older-model nuclear weapons systems, the United States will shift to newer-model, more accurate nuclear weapons systems which are transported by naval vessel or aircraft. This trend will quicken if the United States continues to feel pressure to reduce its defense budget.

USFK nuclear weapons have existed as a deterrent to North Korea, and have served in that role well. However, an undesirable outgrowth of that existence has been the nuclear development of North Korea. This outgrowth may cause the realization of a worst-case scenario—dragging other surrounding countries such as South Korea and Japan into the ranks of the nuclear-armed countries.

"There Is No Escaping From Nuclear Weapons

In order to prevent this situation from occurring, as well as to avoid justifying North Korea's nuclear development, it seems as though at the very least nuclear weapons must disappear from South Korea. Even if ROK military power is not superior to that of North Korea, most military experts estimate that ROK military strength is at a level adequate to inflict a mortal blow even without using nuclear weapons should North Korea invade southward. Withdrawing nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula does not mean shedding the U.S. nuclear umbrella.

Both the ROK and United States have developed a passive posture of adhering to the NCND policy because of the great benefits which have been reaped from it. We must discard this policy and actively respond to North Korea's nuclear development. It seems as though either formally confirming that there are no nuclear weapons in South Korea or working towards the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula would be good methods to pursue. There is also a problem on the part of the citizens who have been apathetic concerning nuclear weapons which are directly linked to our sovereignty and national esteem. Apathy and ignorance are as dangerous as the power of nuclear weapons itself.

The following passage appears in the conclusion of the book "Living With Nuclear Weapons," written by the Harvard Nuclear Study Group, including Joseph Nye:

"Atomic escapism must be avoided. One form of escapism is to believe that nuclear weapons will go away. They will not.

"Because they will not, mankind must learn to live with them if we are to live at all. The other form of escapism is to think that nuclear weapons can be treated like other military weapons in history. They cannot. And because they are different, humanity must live with them carefully, vigilantly, gingerly, always displaying the utmost caution.

University Presidents Urge Reform Measures

SK1005005591 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 May 91 p 3

[Text] Amid social turmoil triggered by the police killing of a demonstrating college student, presidents of 33 universities and colleges throughout the nation called on the government to take substantial reform measures to help ease what they said was a social crisis.

In a five-hour emergency meeting with three government ministers Wednesday evening, the university presidents urged the government to permit peaceful demonstrations, charging that the current violent student demonstrations resulted partly from "tough suppression" by police and partly from the lingering "authoritarian" stance of the government and its party.

Denouncing the government and political parties for their slowness on reform measures, the presidents urged the government to revise the controversial National Security Law and the Law on the Agency for National Security Planning—To take substantial reform measures to help remove unstable elements in the nation's political, social and economic sectors

—To permit peaceful demonstrations and refrain from using excessive police force

—To root out "outside elements" which incite campus unrest

—And to give private universities financial support to help improve their educational environments.

Only when the government takes such measures, would there be a possibility that student demonstration might be substantially reduced, the presidents said.

The presidents, including Cho Wan-kyu of Seoul National University, also urged Home Minister Yi Sang-yon, Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam and Education Minister Yun Hyong-sop to designate "peaceful demonstration sites," asking the government to deal more prudently with protest demonstrations.

Father Luke Pak Hong, president of Sogang University, charged that some "outside forces" are behind the student demonstration and said that "without removing them, campus unrest will never disappear."

It was not clear what he meant by the "outside forces," but prosecution sources said some "impure, radical or leftist-wing figures" seem to have something to do with students' violent actions.

To help tide over the ongoing crisis, the university heads also urged leaders of rival political parties to get together to promote more reforms.

Their extraordinary meeting with the three cabinet ministers came in the wake of a flurry of nationwide antigovernment demonstrations, four self-immolation attempts that have killed three youths during the past 10 days, and a series of statements issued by as many as 2,600 professors and 1,600 high school teachers.

Responding to the university presidents' demands, Home Minister Yi said the government will revise the Act on Demonstrations and Assemblies for "a healthy demonstration culture" and promised to spearhead efforts to remove various social ills which students are demonstrating against.

He also said the government will permit peaceful demonstrations.

Protesters Hold Rallies, Ask Government Removal

SK0905135591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1311 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 9 (YONHAP)—Tens of thousands of students, laborers and dissidents took to the main streets of Seoul and 50 provincial cities across the nation Thursday evening, calling for disbandment of the ruling party and end of the so-called "public security-oriented" rule.

An estimated 40,000 students, workers, teachers and dissident activists, who were angry about the recent beating death of a student demonstrator, tried to march toward the City Hall Plaza, downtown Seoul, chanting "oust the murderous regime," "down with (President) No Tae-u."

Their rallies were called to coincide with the founding anniversary of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]).

In downtown Seoul, thousands of riot troopers, who were deployed around the plaza earlier in the day, fired tear gas canisters and wielded clubs to block the protesters' advance to the plaza, where they were to hold a major angi-government rally.

In northern Seoul, some 5,000 students and civilians staged a sit-in on the streets near Tongdaemun (East Gate), to protest the death of the clubbed death of Kang Kyong-tae, 21 [as received]. A group of students put out a placard that read "Dissolve the ruling party, oust No Tae-u." The slogan was written in blood. Protesters set fire to an effigy of President No.

A group of 200 members of the splinter Democratic Party [DP] staged an hour-long sit-in protest in front of a building facing City Hall at 5:40 P.M., but policemen dispersed the rally, tossing the participants into five vans. A similar sit-in was staged by about 200 members of the main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP] in front of a nearby hotel.

The protest, largest since the No administration was launched in February 1988, virtually paralyzed traffic on such main trunk roads as Chong-ro, Ulchi-ro and Hangang-ro in front of Seoul Railroad Station till late into the night.

In Pusan, some 20,000 students and dissidents occupied a main road in Nampo-dong in center Pusan, the largest port city of Korea, demanding dissolution of the ruling party and stoppage of what they called heavy-handed rule.

Workers of about 20 plants in the city downed their tools to participate in the protests.

In Kwangju, fortress city of opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, about 10,000 students, dissidents and farmers gathered at Kumnam-ro Street in the center of the city.

In Masan, about 15,000 people attended the street rallies, field reports said.

Largest Protest 'In Three Years'

SK1005031691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—Riot police battled hundreds of thousands of demonstrators across South Korea until past midnight Thursday in the largest anti-government protests in three years.

The mammoth protests, ignited by the police killing of a student demonstrator last month, brought 100,000 people (police estimate) out onto the streets of Seoul and other major cities.

Anti-government rallies and demonstrations have became nearly daily scenes in some quarters since Kang Kyong-tae, a Seoul collegian, was beaten to death by the police April 26. The protests broke out in over 40 cities and were the biggest since President No Tae-u was sworn in in February 1988.

Protestors, chanting "Down with the No regime," marched to demand dissolution of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and an end to security-oriented rule by "public force," a general description for hardliners in the government, who are said to rely on the police, the Agency for National Security Planning and the Defense Security Command in the conduct of state affairs.

The police said some 100,000 people, including 35,000 in Seoul, took part in demonstrations at 42 cities and counties, while organizers of the nationwide protests, a loose-knit grouping of 53 dissident organizations, said more than 500,000 people, including 200,000 in Seoul, took part in the demonstrations.

The rallies began simultaneously at 6 P.M. and marked the first anniversary of the creation of the DLP.

Students, workers and dissidents clashed violently with the police, littering the streets with broken bottles and rocks on some major streets and stranding commuters heading home.

All the opposition parties—the New Democratic Party, Democratic Party and People's Party—joined the demonstrations. It was the first participation of opposition parties in anti-government protests.

More than 45,000 police were mobilized nationwide to prevent gatherings from pouring into the streets. A defensive strategy adopted after Kang's death was soon abandoned, when the police, overwhelmed by a growing number of demonstrators, fired water cannon and barrages of tear gas.

Police rounded up 110 people for questioning on suspicion of throwing firebombs, a crime punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to 5 million won.

In their joint struggle against the government and DLP, the nation's major dissident forces—radical students, activist unions and teachers—deepened their solidarity by boycotting classes and going on strike.

A total of 70,000 students at 142 universities and colleges across the country held campus protest rallies and then took to the streets. They boycotted classes on Thursday and Friday in response to an appeal by the nation's largest radical student organization, Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives].

According to the Education Ministry, attendance at morning classes at universities and colleges was 60 percent but fell drastically in the afternoon.

Workers affiliated with the nationwide labor activist alliance Chonnohyop [National Council of Labor Unions] staged a partial work stoppage from 3:30 P.M. and took part in the protests. Chonnohyop said 220,000 workers from 458 unions took part in the rallies and demonstrations, but the Labor Ministry put the number at 13,900.

The outlawed National Teachers' Alliance (Chonkyocho) said 25,000 teachers from elementary, junior and senior schools participated in the rallies after their classes.

Since Wednesday, 2,325 teachers have made statements backing the protests and their collective anti-government action was the first under the No Government.

"We will keep up our efforts to oust the government as it refuses to accept our demands, including the resignation of the cabinet and the punishment of ranking officials responsible for Kang's death," organizers said.

Daily Urges No To Reappraise State Affairs

SK1005011691 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 May 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Persisting National Crisis"]

[Text] The tunnel of tension and confrontation which the political world is going through appears endless, with a final destination still not in slight. The man on the street is watching the dismal development with fingers crossed. Sensible people are now heaving deep sighs over the future of the nation which seems to be running into an ever-deeper abyss.

The nation witnessed yesterday a new wave of violent clashes on the streets across the nation as radical students and dissidents hurled stones and firebombs and riot police used truncheons and tear gas. Of late, violent confrontations have been the order of the day with no sign of a lull.

Just two days ago, another young man burned himself to death to become the fourth victim of a self-immolation attempt in protest against the police beating to death of a collegian.

A number of professors, labor union leaders and leading figures from social and religious circles have joined the anti-government protests and increased political and social tension.

The anti-government forces are, as a matter of course, moving toward the creation of a joint front in their campaign to overthrow the incumbent government of President No Tae-u. The main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP], meanwhile, is pressing for the withdrawal of the No Chae-pong Cabinet in an assumption of responsibility for the fatal beating of the collegian, though it has yet to go to the extreme of demanding the stepdown of President No.

NDP leader Kim Tae-chung and his main opposition party have undergone mounting pressure from the extra-Assembly dissident forces to join the drive to topple the No government. Because of this, the NDP leader Kim has often altered his demands addressed to the ruling camp but has reasonably managed to keep his basic line not to join an extremist anti-government drive.

Kim, apparently, holds the view that if the No government is pushed too hard, military intervention might be invited, and a national tragedy produced. However, he threatened that his party would trigger a "struggle on the streets" if his party's demands, including the resignation of the No cabinet, remain unheeded.

In the meantime, presidents and deans of 33 universities and colleges across the country have urged the government to allow students' peaceful demonstrations, to restrain police from using force to quell the demonstrations and hammer out effective steps to cope with the current crisis. On the other hand, rightist forces including a veterans' association have denounced the anti-government rallies and protests as insidious attempts to undermine the national existence.

Amid the mounting cries in support of and against the government and its ruling party, President No has persistently refused the opposition demand to dismiss the No cabinet and form a suprapartisan cabinet, contending that the demand is no more than an "illogistic political offensive." No is obviously adamantly convinced that there is nothing wrong with "security-oriented administration" since the government's main task is to maintain order and public security for the people.

Certainly, there is a wide disparity in the assessment of the present national situation by the government and opposition camps, particulary over No's ruling style. The question boils down to a dispute as to whether the current plight has resulted from the arbitrarily running of state affairs by security-concerned officials or by the opposition parties bent on capitalizing on an untoward incident for their partisan interests.

The NDP leader's present stand against the apparent maneuvering to overthrow the No government is proper and only to be expected as far as he is committed to parliamentary democracy and the democratic election process. In this context, there needs to be a warning against what appears to be revolutionary means to bring about a power change.

Whatever the cause of the present plight may be, the ruling camp has the primary and ultimate responsibility for resolving the current impasse. Cognizant of the gravity of the situation, President No and his government are obliged to reappraise the state of affairs and reorient their policies and administration.

* Democratic Alliance Forces Join DP

912C0153A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 17-24 Feb 91 pp 14-17

[Article by political reporter Yi Ko-san: "Now That the Democratic Party [DP] Has Proclaimed Its 'Second Founding,' Can It Trisect Its Power?"]

[Text]**Key to Success in Union With Democratic Alliance Is Speaking With One Voice**

The Democratic Party's [DP] "Operation Rebirth" is in full swing.

The interim party convention held on 3 February 1991 which proclaimed its union with the Democratic Alliance (DA) was the first formal step taken. It was 79 days since the party was cut adrift on 16 November last year when then Chairman Yi Ki-taek, taking responsibility for the failure in uniting the opposition forces, resigned. Some 18 prominent figures from all walks of life such as former high government officials, university professors, and businessmen who had previously joined the party, attended the convention and urged the delegates on.

The convention was held at the Korean Exhibition Hall, on Samsong-tong, Kangnam-ku, with more than a thousand in attendance all together, including 755 delegates. Large placards, a score of them, stressing "The Democratic Party Takes Responsibility for Responsible Politics, Ethical Politics" were indicative of the heightened theme of the convention. Yi Pu-yong on the podium and 60 others of the DA seated in the center of the delegates section looked somewhat tense perhaps now that their "days as opposition were over."

One of the highlights of the convention was the reinstallation of Yi Ki-taek as chairman, a decision that followed the action of Vice Chairman Pak Chan-chong to give up seeking a vote on a new chairman that had been pending right up to the opening of the convention.

As Acting Chairman Kim Hyon-kyu moved for the installation of former Chairman Yi as the new chairman, the delegates gave unanimous consent. Amid fanfare new Chairman Yi mounted the podium and repeated calls of "Yi Ki-taek" were followed with handclaps.

"We have accomplished at last the task to bring about a second founding of the party." So saying with emotion, Chairman Yi went on to declare in high spirits: "The political revolution by the hangul generation has just begun to grow."

However, as for the vice chairmen, it was another matter. After some tough going, Kim Hyon-kyu, Cho Sun-hyong, and Pak Chan-chong were chosen by vote from the old DP [Democratic Party] side; to the two seats allocated to the DA side, Yi Pu-yong and Ko Yong-ku were elected and Vice Chairman Hong Sa-tok suffered a defeat. The new leadership and delegates concluded the convention after passing six resolutions on: 1) resignations of district party chairmen and other party officials; 2) a new political movement and reform promotion; 3) construction of a new united party; 4) establishment of a democratic government through victories in the local autonomous government elections; 5) doing away with parochial biases; and 6) improvement or abolition of evil laws, and release of the prisoners of conscience.

After the three-way merger movement failed, in particular, the collapse of the conference to unite the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy], the DP, and the independents, the DA faction within the conference, unlike the Christian faction leaning toward Kim Tae-cung, agreed among themselves in "removing Kim Tae-chung through a new generation of leadership", and this has prompted the DP to pursue the course of uniting with the DA faction.

At that time the DP, having failed to cash in on its victory in the by-elections in Chinchon and Umsong into achieving the unity of opposition forces, was facing a crisis of the party's life and death. The DA, too, was going through a difficult time, unable to decide on its course of action in the face of the rapidly declining force of its own on account of the repeated splitting of the opposition forces.

In the Plan To Increase the 70 District Party Organizations to 140, 20 to 30 May Be Allocated to the DA Faction

Accordingly, representatives from both sides met a dozen times and it was agreed in the end that the DA would join the DP, but that it would take the form of "political union." On 5 January 1991 the DA side released its "proposal for new politics and reform," thus making itself known as a political force to be reckoned with. Subsequently, on 2 [February], 68 DA members, proclaiming union with the DP, joined the DP.

As it pushed for union with DA, the DP simultaneously "embraced" prominent figures from all walks of life such as former high government officials, and also launched an effort to welcome into the party the elders of former opposition forces such as Ko Hung-mun, Yang Sun-chik and Yi Chung-chae. The effort to embrace prominent figures from all walks of life was successful to a certain extent with 18 of them joining the party, such as former Education Vice Minister Chang Ko-ok, former Economic Planning Board Assistant Vice Director Cha Hwa-chun, Pusan University Professors Kim Ki-u and Yi Tae-u, and Anguk Pharmaceutical Board Chairman O Chun-son; but the effort to welcome into the party the elders of former opposition forces ended in failure, because Chairman Yi and the DP assemblymen spearheading the support for Chairman Yi such as Assemblymen Yi Chol, Kim Chong-kil and No Mu-hyon were successful in curbing the non-mainstream faction such as Vice Chairmen Pak Chan-chong and Kim Hyon-kyu and Assemblyman Kim Kwang-il who had maneuvered to restrain Chairman Yi through welcoming in the elders. In the process, the emotional chasm between the two sides has deepened.

It was after such twists and turns that the DP formed a new leadership at the convention and with it, has come to embark on "a second founding of the party." In order to stress "political" union with the DA, all of the district party chairmen and other party officials submitted their resignations to the new leadership, as was agreed at the beginning. The new leadership formed a political affairs council and completed personnel selection for party positions; and putting a special committee for organizational strengthening into operation, launched into reappointing the district party chairmen.

The DP in its second organizational expansion project is set to double the present 70 district party organizations to 140. The DA side secretly hopes to get the chairmanships of 40 to 45 district party committees, but all signs indicate the probability that the final count will be 20 to 30.

Intensive Probe Into Bribery in Form of Overseas Trips, Into Suso Housing Scandal; Will Launch Political Argument of "Plowing a Paddy With Water in It"

The DP has proclaimed "a second founding of the party," hanging out "new politics and reform" as the catchphrase, but it will not be smooth sailing is the reality.

To begin with, internally, there is the question as to how to overcome the disagreement surrounding the party power. The prospect is that the fight with the non-mainstream faction, which is beyond the reach of Chairman Yi's leadership influence, will continue.

It is thought that Vice Chairman Pak Chan-chong, whose power inside the party is weak but his popularity outside the party is superior to Chairman Yi's, will continue to challenge Chairman Yi ceaselessly; and it is anticipated that Vice Chairman Kim Hyon-kyu, DP Assemblyman Kim Kwang-il, and former Vice Chairman Hong Sa-tok, too, will continue to generate friction with Chairman Yi's side for laying their personal power bases. On the other hand, it is believed that DP Assemblymen Yi Chol, Kim Chong-kil, and No Mu-jyon, supporting Chairman Yi with a view to leading the party according to their own ideas, will continue to have the non-mainstream faction excluded. Chairman Yi, aware of this too, expressed his determination to hold a firm grip on the party at the press conference on assuming the office of the chairman: "For party decisions, I will have held sufficient discussions, but once made, any party member resisting the party decision will not be tolerated."

The question of harmony with the DA side also deserves watching. Because there is the making of difficulties arising against party consensus in the event that the DA side, strong in its progressive tendency, raises its independent voice based on its 33 percent share of power. Vice Chairman Yi Pu-yong displays a cautious attitude: "I will merely watch the situation for the time being, aware of the perception in certain quarters that 'personalities of the opposition are overly argumentative and unrealistic,'" but observers believe that one day he will affect the party color. Consequently, how the voices of the three groups, i.e., the mainstream, the non-mainstream, and the DA will be harmonized becomes a matter of importance attracting attention.

In this connection, Chairman Yi revealed his confidence: "The union with the DA can be harmonized on a conservative progressive line." However, Chairman Yi had shown the limits in his exercise of leadership such as his failure in exerting influence on the non-mainstream side; and whether or not he will be quite capable of uniting the three forces is a matter that must be watched a little longer.

Externally, it faces the pressing question of surviving squeezed in between the two parties of the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] and the PPD.

The DLP, being a party in power with multilayered regional bases, overwhelms the DP quantitatively in terms of organization, funds, and personnel. There is no comparison. The DP's strategy vis-a-vis the DLP is therefore focused on the recent economic and social conditions such as the rising prices and the lack of public peace and order, which played a decisive role in the decline of the DLP in popularity. Again, in light of the scandals of bribery in the form of overseas trips for members of the commerce and industry committee and of the Suso housing subdivision, the plan is to mount a political argument of "plowing a paddy with water in it." However, it remains an unknown quantity just how much support the voters will give for the DP's "moral superiority."

Joining Opposition Forces Will Unavoidably Worsen Funding Difficulties; Local Autonomous Government Election Results Will Constitute Big Variables

Another foe of the DP's is the PPD. In the course of negotiations for uniting the opposition forces, the DP was in sharp confrontation with the fellow opposition party over the phase of Chairman Kim Tae-chung, consequently the two parties find themselves in a situation where they have no alternative but to wage a fierce fight over the hegemony of opposition forces. On realistic-oriented grounds that Chairman Kim is responsible for the 1987 split of opposition forces and is incapable of bonding opposition forces in areas other than Honam or Cholla provinces, the DP is formulating a long-term strategy to make Chairman Kim step down. Such strategy, even as the DA side takes the blame lying down for the split of opposition forces, could also be read from what was mentioned in its statement on the union: "We have joined in the union with the Democratic Party as one of the phases in the interest of a great union of opposition forces." Viewing the impending local autonomous government elections as one of the phases in realizing this, the DP is drawing a mental "picture" in which Chairman Kim Tae-chung suffers a total defeat everywhere except in certain specific areas and the DP suddenly looms large.

For its part, the PPD continues to overwhelm the DP to emphasize itself as the sole representative of opposition forces. The PPD is known to have a plan under wraps to dilute the looks of opposition personalities in areas other than Honam who are pro-Chairman Kim participating in a new "political" party coming out in the forefront and receiving one-sided support in certain specific areas. For his part, Chairman Kim at private gatherings also either is belittling the DP: "Whether viewed from the point of party management or for lack of policy, it is difficult even to regard it as a party," or is displaying the attitude of deliberately ignoring the DP, prognosticating: "In the forthcoming local autonomous government elections the metropolitan areas will witness a three-way battle between the DLP, the PPD and the independents." Realistically speaking, this extends and develops into "cooperation" between the DLP and the PPD in their common scheme to have the DP share of state-provided election funds drastically reduced through a revision of the law governing political funds.

In addition, personnel problems and funding problems constitute difficult questions that do not lend themselves easily to a solution. The local autonomous government elections are at hand; but if the human resource is thrown into the task to double district party organizations, will there be anyone left to take action in the elections?

As for the funding question, the situation is such that the union of personalities with opposition background who are "have-nots" is exacerbating the problem rather than helping it, and collecting delinquent party dues remains a pending question.

The DP people, steadily enjoying 10 percent or so in recent public opinion polls of various kinds, believe they can go toe to toe with the DLP and the PPD whose support stays around 15 percent more or less. In particular, thanks to the moderate reform championed by the DA and the former high government officials welcomed into the party, the party looks satisfied that it could win support from the middle class and students, and adapt itself flexibly to the desire of the public opinion for reform of the existing political power.

Informed sources of the political community, a majority of them, point out, however, that the DP is getting a ride for now on the coattails of its assemblymen who are known as the "stars of public hearing," and that it is no more than the "reflex benefit" from the people arising out of their recent dislike of the political power. To be sure, the voters criticizing both the DLP and the PPD tend to support the DP, but the prevailing opinion is that this support, compared with that which other parties enjoy, is not as firm as theirs.

Informed sources of the political community point out as the reason for it the compound interaction of the image of Chairman Yi who displayed somewhat irresolute political behavior in the past, the lack of leadership of the DP following its founding, and the "egotistic" division and confrontation of the DP assemblymen. Therefore, it is their analysis that how Chairman Yi will exercise his mode of party management from now on, how he will exercise his leadership, and how the DP assemblymen will display their sacrificial spirit of dedication will all closely affect the development of the party.

Meanwhile, inasmuch as the DP has made it clear to go it alone, it will be a three-way battle in the local autonomous government elections at hand between the DLP, the PPD and the DP, and it is anticipated that the same three-way battle will be fought in the next general elections too.

Of course it is impossible to ignore the probability that depending on the results of the local autonomous government elections, there will be blowing another whirlwind of revamping the political circles, such as the movement for the union of opposition forces.

Anyhow, the forthcoming local autonomous government elections may be said to be a litmus test determining if the DP could achieve its growth through the people's judgment. It may be said to be a matter that must be watched as to what kind of judgment will be passed by the voters on the DP slogan championing "new politics and reform."

For the DP report card will precisely be showing the inseparable interrelation with the "change of generation" constantly taking place in a corner of the political power.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Paper Notes Disappearance of Illegal Workers

BK0805010691 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 May 91 p 13

[By Gerald Raja]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sun.—More than 200 Malaysians who went to work illegally in Taiwan have disappeared without a trace.

Worried families, having exhausted all known avenues, have sought the help of two Ipoh-based private investigation agencies who will liaise with Taiwanese authorities to trace the missing Malaysians, most of whom were from Perak.

The rest are from the Federal Territory, Selangor, Penang and Johor.

MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] Public Service and Complaints Bureau head Michael Chong told the NEW STRAITS TIMES today several next-of-kin of the missing Malaysians had paid between $2,000 and $3,000 each to the agencies.

He said: "They have paid more than $100,000 to the agencies as they are worried for the safety of their loved ones."

He added that the investigators employed by the agencies made frequent trips to Taipeh to locate the Malaysians, some of whom have been missing over the past two years.

It is not immediately known if the agencies had located any of the Malaysians.

For some families, news of their loved ones being found have come a little too late.

Said Mr Chong: "An example are the families of two construction workers, aged 43 and 24, who went missing. The families were told they had died in industrial accidents a year ago."

He said the families suffering did not end there as they found that they could not claim the remains of the men.

This is because they are in the dark as to which temple their ashes were being kept.

Mr Chong said the case of Teoh Lai Fook, 25, of Tanjung Malim who had gone to Taiwan in 1988 to work illegally, shows the difficulty of finding the 200 missing Malaysians.

"Teoh's family said he called them just once to say that he had arrived. They have not heard from him again.

"The family spent about $2,500 on private investigators to trace Teoh but till today, there has been no word."

Mr Chong said he found out during a recent trip to Taiwan that several bodies of either Chinese or Thai origin were lying unclaimed and unidentified at the Taipeh mortuary. He suspected some of the bodies could be that of the missing Malaysians.

Their cause of death was either accidents or murder.

Singapore

Lee Kuan Yew Urges Japanese Openness on History

BK0705120191 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 4 May 91 p 20

[By Chai Kim Wah]

[Text] Japan should discuss its militaristic past and not be afraid to talk about it openly, Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu yesterday.

Such openness was necessary and useful, he said, so that people in Asia could learn more about Japan as it assumed a more active global role.

To promote this openness, the Japanese should not make too much of their distinctiveness as a people, Mr Lee told Mr Kaifu during his 40-minute courtesy call on the Japanese premier at the Shangri-la Hotel.

According to Mr Sadaaki Numata, the Japanese spokesman who briefed reporters on the talks, Mr Lee noted that there was a tendency for the Japanese to stress their special circumstances, such as being a small island-nation with scarce resources.

This Japanese sense of uniqueness might inhibit frank and open dialogue with other countries, he said.

In order to develop a greater degree of empathy and identity of interests with other peoples, Japan should do more to disseminate its language and culture, Mr Lee suggested.

The Japanese should not be afraid to speak their minds and be open about what they felt, he was quoted as telling Mr Kaifu.

Complimenting the Japanese leader on the policy speech he gave yesterday morning, Mr Lee said one of its highlights was Mr Kaifu's expression of contrition for Japan's actions in World War II.

This was a step in the direction that Japan should take as it sought a bigger role on the world stage, he said.

He added that it was good Mr Kaifu was taking steps to ensure that Japan's younger generation had a full and accurate grasp of their own country's history so that the past would never be repeated.

Mr Numata added that Mr Lee reminisced about Singapore's history, going back to his youth during the Japanese occupation. However, the spokesman declined to give details of what Mr Lee told Mr Kaifu about his war-time experiences.

Recalling the post-war years, Mr Lee noted that it was very fortunate the United States became actively involved in reconstructing the post-war world.

The US had played the major role in nurturing the free trade system on which East Asia's prosperity today was based.

It was extremely important that the US continue to be actively involved in the quest for a new international order, he said.

Mr Lee likened the US role in the post-World War II reconstruction to a mid-wife delivering a baby.

The situation now was like a committee of mid-wives delivering a baby, and its members had to work closely together, he said, because building the new world order was a co-operative effort.

Mr Kaifu assured Mr Lee that Japan would undertake its expanded responsibilities within the framework of the US-Japan security alliance.

He said the US presence in the Asia Pacific was crucial to peace and stability.

He told Mr Lee that their talks had given him a lot to think about, and paid tribute to the former prime minister's successful leadership.

He said he regarded Mr Lee as a statesman he wished to emulate and hoped Japan would continue to benefit from his wisdom and experience.

The two leaders last met when Mr Lee was in Tokyo in November to attend Emperor Akihito's enthronement ceremonies.

Japan's Role in New International Order Viewed

BK0705121991 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 6 May 91 p 26

[Editorial: "A Place in the Sun"]

[Text] It is not surprising that Japan should undergo a great deal of soul-searching to find its role in the new international order. It is a new world, and to pretend that the old order can continue is to delude oneself. Many other countries, too, are re-examining their roles. In the case of Japan, however, as in that of Germany, questions of international identity have a particular cogency. The two nations were defeated in World War II, but the post-war system would never have enjoyed the resilience it did without their active participation, made possible by the far-sighted and benign worldview of the US. As if to consolidate that process of healing, the end of the Cold War leaves Japan and Germany in a position of international leadership, primarily economic but increasingly political, too. How are the two countries going to come to terms with the new world? And how is the new world going to come to terms with them? The answer to either question depends on the other; the point is which comes first. Indications are that both Japan and Germany have decided to answer how they intend to fit into the new world. Their soul-searching is proof of their desire to seize the historical moment. Now it is up to the rest of the world to decide how genuine the initiative is, and to reciprocate. Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu suggested as much in Singapore last week. He apologised for Japan's wartime role in Pacific Asia. He committed Tokyo to continuing support for the region's economic development. He said that his country would play a bigger political role in Asia. He promised, though, that Japan would never revert to militarism. Almost as a guarantee, he clarified that Japan's larger regional role would be within the structure of its alliance with the US. Mr Kaifu noted the revulsion towards war present among Japanese, and the strong civilian control of the military. Indeed so. Together with a democratic system that has been refined over almost half a century, these are significant factors in preventing a return to past Japanese self-perceptions and actions towards others.

These reassurances are welcome. A weak Japan is in no one's interest, but the point about a strong Japan concerns, as it always has, the kind of strength Tokyo is aiming at. Economically, Japan's active involvement in investment and aid activities is essential to preserve South-east Asian regional resilience. Indeed, Japan can do more by continuing to open its markets to imports from this region, as from the US and Europe. Politically, Japan's voice is important not only in the resolution of Asian conflicts, such as the Cambodian one, but also as an Asian voice in international affairs. As the East-West conflict gives way to new questions about the North-South relationship, Japan's status as a leading North economy situated among South nations gives it a mediatory role to play. Militarily, Asian countries by and large understand the reasons for Japan's decision to send minesweepers to the Gulf. The definitive point here is that any Japanese action which goes beyond protecting its sealanes must occur only under UN—that is, multilateral—auspices. Equally important is the security relationship with the US, the cornerstone of Asian security as much as Japanese security. Japan—and the US, too, of course—must not allow trade or other irritants to undermine that relationship.

It is said that countries have neither permanent friends nor permanent enemies but only permanent interests. The Japanese would rightly find it offensive if others tried to tell them what their permanent interests should be. But since much depends, especially in East Asia, on what Japan does and thinks, it bears repeating that Japan has a deep stake in the peace, stability and prosperity of the region it is part of. It is by building up this commitment that Japan has come to be a leading Asian power; it is by retaining it that Japan will continue to be one. To that extent, the old world of the post-war order extends into the new, and points the way towards the future.

Cambodia

SPK Reports Tie Banh 9 May News Conference

BK1005075691 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0425 GMT 10 May 91

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 May (SPK)—"We are ready to accept and facilitate the UN military mission" which will pay a visit to Phnom Penh on 14 May within the framework of the voluntary cease-fire, which went into effect on 1 May, affirmed Tie Banh, Cambodian defense minister at a news conference in Phnom Penh on Thursday [9 May] afternoon.

Tie Banh said that while attacking many positions of the State of Cambodia's army, the enemy has launched a slanderous propaganda campaign accusing the State of Cambodia of violating the cease-fire. For this reason, he stressed, a control of the cease-fire is desirable."

On our part, we strictly respect the cease-fire proposed by the cochairmen of the Paris international conference and the UN Secretary General and accepted by all warring Cambodian parties, reaffirmed the Foreign Minister who continued:

"The UN mission can thus discuss with the State of Cambodia the program of its visit, particularly the places it wants to visit."

Tie Banh added that "those who still have doubts on the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia can come because we have always wished for such a control."

He indicated that this would not be another attempt to link the cease-fire and the supply of military aid to international control.

Concerning the military situation, the Defense Minister noted that each year, fighting in the dry season tends to be more fierce than in the rainy season, particularly in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap Provinces adjoining Thailand. However, he noted that in the past dry season, "the military situation is 10 times less tense than in 1989-90."

On the disarming of troops stipulated in the UN plan, the minister said it is easy to disarm the State of Cambodia's Armed Forces which are stationed at precise positions while it would not be easy to disarm the forces of the tripartite coalition which are hidden in the jungles, and even less so concerning the Khmer Rouge because the latter are nurturing the intention of reinvigorating their genocidal regime.

Therefore, to prevent the return of this barbarous regime, it is necessary that the State of Cambodia's Armed Forces remained armed, he affirmed.

The plan to dissolve the existing government and to disarm troops would push the Cambodian people into a disastrous situation, said Tie Banh who added that "the Supreme National Council [SNC] had the duty to meet again to discuss the role of UN representatives because the SNC represents national sovereignty."

AFP: UN Mission To Visit Guerrilla-Held Zone

BK1005122391 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Bangkok, May 10 (AFP)—A United Nations military mission formed to review a cease-fire in Cambodia is to visit areas in the north held by two of the three guerrilla factions fighting the Phnom Penh regime, officials said here Friday.

Arrangements have been made for the mission to travel Monday to military headquarters of guerrillas loyal to former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk at Ampil and those of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) at Ban Takuan, both near the Thai border, they said.

The two non-communist groups are allied within an uneasy coalition with the powerful Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's former radical Marxist rulers.

U.N. officials were also trying to arrange a visit to Khmer Rouge-held territory, but had not received a reply late Friday, the sources said.

The U.N. military team is led by General Timothy Dibuama, from Ghana, who is due here Saturday, and includes an officer from France, Bangkok-based military attache Colonel Edouard Castagnet- Cazalis, and another from Indonesia, Colonel Sutarto.

The mission is to travel Tuesday to Phnom Penh for meetings with leaders of the government set up 12 years ago following Cambodia's invasion by Vietnam to overthrow the Khmer Rouge and replace it with a friendly government.

Cambodia's warring factions have all accepted a call by France and Indonesia, the co-chairs of an international conference on Cambodia, and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to observe a cease-fire as of May 1.

The factions have exchanged accusations of violations of the truce, but diplomats monitoring developments in Cambodia and Thai officers at the border have said there had been very little fighting since it came into effect.

Defense Minister General Tie Banh also told correspondents Thursday in Phnom Penh that, in spite of mutual accusations, the truce was generally holding.

"Cambodia warmly welcomes the U.N. military mission," he added.

The KPNLF political leadership in a statement here also welcomed the mission, but warned that any attempt "to solve the Cambodian problem step by step will not bring a durable peace to Cambodia."

This was a reiteration of the guerrilla stand that a final cessation of hostilities must be part of an overall political settlement.

France, Indonesia and the U.N. chief have urged the factions to observe the truce at least until the conclusion of Jakarta peace talks scheduled for June 2 to 4, which will bring together representatives from all four warring factions.

3-6 May Cease-Fire Violations Reported

BK1005125891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0424 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 9—The Khmer coalition groups from May 3-6 continued violating the ceasefire launching fresh attacks on government positions in the provinces of Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu and Siem Reap and Kompong Som.

On May 4, men of the Pol Pot Division 616 fired 82-mm recoiless gun (?on) areas 8 and 11 kms east and northeast of Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province. Polpotists from Division 802 captured three tractor drivers working in Boeng Real region 10 km northwest of Baray District. Meanwhile, Sihanoukists and Battalion 5 went on a looting spree in Chi Meak Village, (?near) Krang commune. The tripartite groups have also sent reinforcements to Popok Commune, Stoung District.

In Siem Reap Province, the enemy troops on May 3 slammed dozens of P-107 gun shells into areas in Samraong District. The following day, they fired about 50 shells of 122-mm artillery on the district town of Chikreng, same province. On May 5, they also pounded the district town of Siem Reap with 50 shells of recoiless-gun.

On May 4, 12 men of the Son Sann group intruded into Tang Krasang Village, Kompong Cham province, and robbed local peasants of their property.

In Kompong Speu Province, the Polpotists at 11 PM (local time) on May 6 engaged the government forces at Chamka Kor position along Highway 4.

In Kompong Som, men of the Pol Pot group fired recoiless gun shells into Veal Rinh market, district town of Prey Nop, killing two civilians and wounding eight others. On the same night, they attacked the government positions in Samaki, Trapeang Ropeou and Toek Thla Communes, same district, burning down one market and many dwelling houses.

The ceasefire, which was positively responded to by all Cambodian warring factions and came into effect on May 1, is continuing to be violated by the Khmer coalition side which has repeatedly raided government positions since its start.

Prime Minister Hun Sen on May 4 sent a message to Indonesian and French Foreign Ministers Ali Alatas and Roland Dumas, co-chairs of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, calling on observers from neutral country to monitor the ceasefire in the country.

Further on Violations

BK1005123891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1113 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 10—Thirteen government-controlled areas came under attack by the Khmer coalition troops in various provinces during the first week after the cease-fire came into effect on May 1.

On May 5, about 100 men of the Pol Pot faction intruded into Svay Damnak village, 38 km northwest of Rovieng, and Putrea commune, 15km south of Chey Sen, Preah Vihear Province, harassing the people and looting their property.

In Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, 40 Sonsannians on May 5 robbed 70 bovines from the peasants in Kon Kriel commune.

On the same day, the Polpotists fired nearly 200 artillary shells on areas along highway 10. Around 60 men of Pol Pot's division 48 also intruded into the eastern part of Battambang Province.

On May 6, men of Pol Pot's division 801 made a foray into an area nine kilometers east of Santuk district, Kompong Thom Province. They forced the local peasants to carry arms and ammunition to Kon K'aek area, 15 km northeast of Sala Visei, same province.

In Pursat Province, the enemy troops from May 1-8 carried dozens of tons of military supplies to areas northwest, southwest and west of Leach, and to the southwest and northwest of Rovieng. They also attacked a government position 21 km northwest of Rovieng, same province.

Commentary Urges 'Neutral and Impartial' Control

BK1005074191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 May 91

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "Supervision of the Implementation of the Cease-Fire in Cambodia Should Be Neutral and Impartial"]

[Text] According to foreign sources, UN Secretary General Javier de Cuellar recently decided to send a group of observers to Cambodia to monitor the voluntary cease-fire of Cambodian parties—called for by the cochairmen of the Paris conference and the UN Secretary General and commenced from 1 May. According to the sources, this group of observers could be led by General Dibuama, currently United Nations military adviser.

This is a positive response to the 4 May message of Comrade Council of Ministers Chairman Hun Sen, addressed to the cochairmen of the Paris conference and the UN Secretary General. The message stated that the voluntary cease-fire ought to be immediately accompanied by the presence, wherever possible, of observers from neutral countries with the agreement of both Cambodian sides to discourage eventual violations and to increase mutual confidence in the move toward a formal cease-fire with international supervision.

We welcome the attention and renewed efforts of the UN Secretary General and the Paris conference cochairmen in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. In the past as in the present, the State of Cambodia's stance is very clear; it carries out what it says without alterations. Whatever the State of Cambodia side has agreed to do we have done, such as the voluntary cease-fire called for by the Paris conference cochairmen and the UN Secretary General.

However, the obstacle is the other Cambodian side in the Pol Pot- Sihanouk-Son Sann genocidal alliance. This group has never had a firm and clear stance with a spirit of responsibility for the destiny of the country and nation. A lot of evidence show that this group has no intention of solving the Cambodian problem politically and peacefully. In fact, not only has it not done whatever it has agreed to do originally, it has also destroyed it through many forms and maneuvers. Recently, it talked about accepting the appeal for a cease-fire—which commenced on 1 May—while seriously violating it at many places along the Cambodian-Thai border, causing cruel and more brutal destruction to the Cambodian people. At the same time, this group continues to receive aid in the form of weapons flowing into Cambodia from outside as a means to continue massacring and destroying the Cambodian people.

In this situation, whatever the other Cambodian side has done till today has been done without United Nations control and inspection. The United Nations had dispatched many fact-finding delegations to the State of Cambodia in the past. They had written reports hundreds of pages long on the infrastructure, administration, economy, and other issues of the country. It also had plans to set up an armed forces.

Therefore, more than ever, in order to eliminate the atmosphere of mutual distrust, we insist that the UN secretary general and the Paris conference cochairmen dispatch observers to Cambodia soon. This group should be neutral and should inspect both sides impartially.

We believe that there is nothing difficult about supervising the State of Cambodia's side because their troops are clearly positioned. We think it is difficult to supervise the other Cambodian side their troops are scattered bandits. We are concerned that if this inspection cannot be carried out, no agreement can be implemented in the process to solve the Cambodian problem.

Refugees Return From First 'Official' Visit

BK1005123991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1034 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 10 (AFP)—Five Cambodian refugees returned Friday to virtual imprisonment in Thailand after an unprecedented visit to their homeland.

The five flew out of Pochentong Airport on their way back to the U.N.-run Khao-i-Dang camp in northeast Thailand after 10 days touring the country, visiting long-lost relatives and looking at development projects, an aid worker said.

The visit was aimed at dispelling myths spread by resistance propaganda about hardship and repression in Cambodia, officials of the sponsoring groups said.

It was the first time in 12 years of civil war that refugees had officially returned for a look at Phnom Penh-held areas.

Those questioned noted that problems remained in the country but the situation had improved considerably since they fled into Thailand.

Four of them had headed across the border soon after Vietnamese troops ended nearly four years of brutal rule by the communist Khmer Rouge in January 1979, with the fifth leaving in 1986, when "it was difficult to live here ... No freedom, no peace."

The Vietnamese left in 1989, but war with the Thai-based resistance continues, however economic reforms may have transformed the country and in particular the cities.

"When I saw the situation in Phnom Penh, I was (pleasantly) surprised," said Doeur Ravuth, 24, who left five years ago.

The refugees have relied on resistance and other radio stations for information on their homeland, much of it bleak and distorted.

They often referred to what they had heard on the radio and were mistrustful of the government in power because it is communist.

During the visit they travelled to northern, western, central and southern Cambodia and also spent a day at the Angkor temple complex in the northwest.

The trip was funded by Norway's Redd Barrna (Save the Children Fund) and organised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Almost all the more than 300,000 Cambodian refugees in Thai camps face little chance of resettlement in the west.

Khao-i-Dang inmates have more freedom than most in that the camp is not run by any of the three resistance factions, which include the Khmer Rouge.

Some have opted to return home. But the refugees are not allowed out of the camp and effectively remain stateless.

The five travelled here on the strength of a letter from the UNHCR and had to spend a night in Ahthai Prison near Bangkok airport the night before flying to Phnom Penh.

Laos

Further on MIA Search, U.S. Humanitarian Aid

BK1005022091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Officials of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the United States have adopted a cooperation plan to continue to work together in further searching for American MIAs. In this regard, the Lao side has agreed to the U.S. proposal to seek information on unclear issues, in particular on burial grounds and the expansion of inspecting general places in search of remains.

The plan of action for this year has been adopted and disclosed following the meeting of the two sides' officials in Vientiane on 4 May. The meeting was held to further the exchanges of views set forth in a meeting held in mid-April by high-level delegations of the two sides headed by Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, and Carl Ford, undersecretary of state of the United States.

This year, the United States has agreed to provide humanitarian aid to Laos. The aid includes a plan to build schools with U.S. funds, the supply of medicine and medical equipment, and a plan to provide medical checkups and treatment. The U.S. side has reiterated its pledge to render humanitarian aid in these fields to Laos.

Further Reportage on Thai Delegation Visit

Kaysone Receives Asa Sarasin

BK1005041991 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] This morning chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Kaysone Phomvihan received at the government guest house in Vientiane, a courtesy call from Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand Asa Sarasin, who is currently paying a working visit to the LPDR at the invitation of Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR.

Kaysone Phomvihan welcomed Asa Sarasin and his delegation's visit which is aimed at more fruitfully promoting and expanding friendly relations. He wished Asa Sarasin and the delegation's visit success and a safe trip home.

Asa Sarasin handed an invitation from Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Anan Panyarachun, to Kaysone Phomvihan to pay a friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand at an appropriate time and date. Kaysone Phomvihan thanked him for the invitation and accepted it with pleasure.

Foreign Ministers Exchange Speeches

BK0905130991 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], hosted a reception in honor of Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin at Lan Xang Hotel yesterday evening. A delegation of the Thai Government led by the Thai foreign minister arrived in Vientiane yesterday morning for a two-day friendship visit to the LPDR.

In his speech welcoming and highly assessing the visit to Laos of Asa Sarasin and his delegation, Phoun Sipaseut said:

[Begin recording] This is your excellency's first trip abroad since your excellency has taken the post of the foreign minister. It is a high honor rendered to our country and an important event that will further strengthen the longstanding friendship and neighborly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples in line with the present Thai Government's declared policy of making serious efforts to tighten the good relations with the LPDR. This is one of the major points in Thailand's foreign policy. The exchange of views between our delegations this morning which proceeded in a cordial atmosphere and mutual understanding has testified to the aspiration [words indistinct].

During the past few years since the prime ministers of the two countries signed the Lao-Thai joint communique in late 1988, I am proud to note that relations between our countries have improved. The visit to Laos of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon in March 1990 has improved the atmosphere of good-neighborliness between the two countries.

The unofficial visit to Laos of General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander and deputy chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council, in early March registered many successes, for example, the withdrawal of troops of both sides from the disputed areas and economic and security cooperation. During my visit to the Kingdom of Thailand to confer the Medal of Honor, the highest distinction of Laos, on Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon in the middle of April, I held a consultative meeting with your excellency and discussed various issues such as the establishment of the Lao-Thai cooperation commission, economic cooperation, and others.

The official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand of a high-level economic delegation of Laos led by Phao Bounnaphon in late April was also successful, thus further increasing economic cooperation on the basis of mutual interest and equity and creating a new atmosphere for our bilteral relations in conformity with the aspiration of the Lao and Thai peoples.

Another important issue is the two countries' contribution to the atmosphere of peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. In this connection, the Cambodian problem is one of the problems to which our countries attach significance and want the Cambodian factions to observe a cease-fire to save lives of the Cambodian people and pave the way for the Cambodian factions to meet under the National Supreme Council soon.

Your Excellency Minister, and ladies and gentlemen: Based on the Lao-Thai Joint Communiques of 1978 and 1988, the friendly and neighborly relations between Laos and Thailand have been ceaselessly improved and strengthened. Considering new developments, we can see a bright future for the relations and cooperation between our two countries which will benefit both Lao and Thai peoples.

Once again, I would like to welcome your excellency and delegation and hope that your excellency will tomorrow bring back with you to your country a good impression of the LPDR. [end recording]

In his return speech, Asa Sarasin said:

[Begin recording in Thai] I once again stress that my visit is intended to carry on [words indistict]. Each deals with specific issues such as electricity production, tourism, and technical cooperation, and security [words indistinct]. Tomorrow we will sign an agreement on the joint Thai-Lao cooperation commission [words indistinct] in many areas which will lead to cooperation [words indistinct]. We hope that after the signing of the agreement, your excellency will visit [words indistinct] so that what we have discussed will be put into practice. On this occasion, I [words indistinct]

Our Lao friends here that this government and I, in my capacity as foreign minister, will try all ways and means to stregthen relations between [words indistinct] forever. Let the past conflicts disappear from relations between our two countries. [end recording]

Joint Communique on Thai Visit

BK0905144791 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] The following is the joint communique between His Excellency [H.E.] Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and H.E. Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand:

1. At the invitation of H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the LPDR, H.E. Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and delegation made an official visit to the LPDR on 8 and 9 May 1992.

2. During the visit, H.E. Asa Sarasin paid a courtesy call on H.E. Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR and handed him a letter of invitation to visit the Kingdom of Thailand from H.E. Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. H.E. Kayson Phomvihan accepted in principle the invitation with gratitude. The date of the visit will be determined later.

3. During the visit, H.E. Asa Sarasin held consultative meetings with H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister and called on H.E. Phao Bounnaphon, minister for foreign economic relations; H.E. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, minister of trade and tourism; and H.E. Soulivong Dalavong, acting industry and handcrafts minister.

4. The consultative meeting between H.E. Phoun Sipaseut and H.E. Asa Sarasin proceeded in a good atmosphere of mutual understanding, bilateral sincerity, and brotherly cordiality. The two foreign ministers reviewing developments in the relations between the two countries such as the royal visit to the LPDR of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon from 15 to 22 March 1990 which is regarded as a historic visit extremely meaningful to the strengthening relations and spiritual ties between the governments and peoples of the two countries; the visit to the LPDR of Thai Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun from 11 to 12 March 1991 which led to the withdrawal of troops of the two countries from the border areas; the conferment of the Medal of Honor of the LPDR on Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon by H.E. Phoun Sipaseut on 17 April 1991, an audience granted to H.E. Phoun Sipaseut by their majesties the king and queen, his courtesy call on Prime Minister H.E. Anan Panyachun, and consultative meeting with the Thai foreign minister; and the visit to Thailand of H.E. Phoa Bounnaphon, minister of foreign economic relations of the LPDR, as the guest of Thai Foreign Minister H.E. Asa Sarasin from 28 April to 2 May 1991 which was aimed at tightening economic and techncial relations between the two countries.

The two foreign ministers have expressed their satisfaction with the improvement of Lao-Thai relations and agreed that relations between the two countries have been developed to another step and that both sides will jointly benefit from the further strengthening of relations, in particular bilateral cooperation in economic development, trade, investment, tourism, and technologies.

5. To ensure the systematic and orderly maintenance of relations between the two countries which are expanding in all areas, the two foreign ministers reviewed the operation of various committees set up by the LPDR and Thai Governments in accordance with the joint communiques signed by the two governments on 6 January and 4 April 1979 which led to the establishment of the Lao-Thai cooperation commissions at the national and local levels and the joint communique signed by the two governments on 25 November 1988 which led to the establishment the Lao-Thai Cooperation Committee, cochaired by the military supreme commanders of the two countries and the Lao-Thai border commmittee, cochaired by the deputy foreign ministers of the two countries. The two foreign ministers, with the consent from their respective governments, have agreed to improve the efficiency of the mechanism of the Lao-Thai relations by setting up the three following committees:

5.1 Joint commission in charge of cooperation between the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand to be cochaired by the foreign ministers of the two countries.

5.2 Joint committee in charge of maintaining tranquility and promoting cooperation along the border. The committee will be cochaired by the first deputy minister of the Lao National Defense Ministry and Thai military supreme commander.

5.3 The Lao-Thai Joint Border Committee, set up under the joint communique signed by the governments of the two countries on 25 November 1988 under the cochairmanship of the deputy foreign ministers of the two countries, will continue its operation.

6. During the visit, the foreign ministers of the two countries signed an agreement on the establishment of a joint commission in charge of cooperation of the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand on 9 May 1991 and agreed that the commission will hold its first meeting in Thailand in the near future.

7. The two sides will discuss the details of the establishment of the joint committee as mentioned in item 5.2 and believe that an agreement in this regard will be signed soon.

8. During the meeting between H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, and H.E. Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and other meetings with ministers in charge of economic affairs of the LPDR, both sides agreed to:

8.1 Expeditiously work out a new trade agreement between the two countries to promote and expand the Lao-Thai trade avenues.

8.2 Establish a Lao-Thai joint investment company to handle the transportation of transit goods. The Lao side will select Thai companies for coinvestment with approval from the the Thai side. The two sides will have agencies concerned discuss details of this matter.

8.3 Further develop Lao-Thai energy cooperation for the interest of the two countries. The Thai side is ready to assist and cooperate with the Lao side in mapping out a development plan for Laos' electricity system.

8.4 Promote the Lao-Thai tourism cooperation. Laos' Trade and Tourism Ministry and the Tourism Authority of Thailand will discuss the principles and details of an agreement designed to promote and development tourist industry.

9. The Thai foreign minister has informed the Lao counterpart that the Thai side has agreed in principle to reduce taxes on agricultural products as proposed by the Lao side. The details of this issue will be worked out later.

10. Considering the close relations between the Lao and Thai peoples and to promote good mutual understanding, the Lao [as heard] disclosed that the Thai Government is willing to take 200 Lao officials for education and training in Thailand and will consider granting the Lao side 30 scholarships for bachelor and master's degree education. Moreover, the Thai Government is also willing to provide technical support and cooperation in other fields as requested by the Lao Government. To further promote the Lao-Thai cooperation in this area, the Thai side will dispatch technical delegations to hold consultations with the Lao side to lay down the plan for technical cooperation in the long run.

11. The foreign ministers of the two countries agreed to exchange visits of officials of the two countries' foreign ministries at different levels to increase good mutual understanding.

12. Thai Foreign Minister H.E. Asa Sarasin invited Lao Foreign Minister H.E. Phoun Sipaseut to visit Thailand as a guest of the Thai Foreign Ministry. H.E. Phoun Sipaseut accepted the invitation with pleasure. The date of the visit will be determined later. The two foreign ministers are elated with the success of the visit to Laos of H.E. Asa Sarasin and his delegation which has strengthened and increased the intimate and cordial relations between the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand. Thai Foreign Minister H.E. Asa Sarasin thanked the Lao Government and fraternal people for the warm, friendly, and brotherly reception rendered to him and his delegation during the visit to Laos.

Vientiane.

9 May 1991.

Kaysone Supports DPRK Reunification Plan

SK0805060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and premier, said the new proposal for national reunification through confederation put forward by respected President Kim Il-song is a very wise and just one and expressed the belief that Korea will surely be reunified.

When he met with the visiting Korean Government delegation led by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok on May 5, he expressed the hope that President Kim Il-song will enjoy a long healthy life for greater success in socialist construction of Korea and in the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification.

Laos values achievements and experience of the Workers' Party of Korea, he said, and added:

The Lao party and government have fully supported the stand of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] and the DPRK Government for national reunification and will invariably support and encourage it in the future, too.

Foreign Relations Delegation Leaves for Vietnam

BK1005051191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Yesterday afternoon a delegation from the Foreign Relations Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee led by Thongloun Sisoulit, member of the LPRP Central Committee, deputy head of the Foreign Relations Committee, and deputy minister of foreign affairs, left for a visit to the SRV. The visit is part of the implementation of the cooperation plan between the LPRP and the Communist Party of Vietnam. It is aimed at strengthening the solidarity, friendship, and all-round cooperation between the two parties and two peoples.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Party Central Committee and deputy minister of foreign affairs. Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Laos, and a number of cadres concerned were also on hand to see the delegation off.

Philippines

Manglapus Reportage on U.S. Bases Issues

U.S. Can Withdraw Uncovered Aid

HK0905125491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 May 91

[By Rey Arquiza, DZRH Unit 21; italicized passage in English]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today announced that U.S. assistance to the Philippines may be withdrawn any time if the aid is not contained in an agreement. Manglapus' statement is in response to a query on whether there is a possibility of the United States withdrawing its aid to the Philippines in the event an agreement on the bases is not reached. *Any aid or assistance not contained in an agreement can be withdrawn any time. But it is more pleasant to give than to receive*, said Manglapus. He added that if the aid is contained in an agreement, it cannot be easily cut or withdrawn because it is stipulated under a bilateral agreement. Manglapus stated that negotiations regarding the bases are not finished yet. He believes that an agreement will be reached before September 1991, when the current military bases agreement expires. However, if a bases agreement is not reached, he expressed the belief that the two countries would take a reasonable stand on the issue of the bases withdrawal from the country. If the two countries are reasonable on the dismantling of the bases, a constitutional crisis could be avoided, Manglapus added.

Extension Not Surprising

HK1005064391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said that it should not come as a surprise if the Philippine Government agrees to over seven year extension of the bases in the country. Here is Ron Bayani with the details:

[Begin recording] In a news conference, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus stated that he had already informed the Senate of this possibility. In this connection, the negotiation between the Philippine negotiating panel and its U.S. counterpart for a new agreement on the bases extension in the country continues. According to Manglapus, efforts by him and U.S. special negotiator Richard Armitage, to reach a compromise on the compensation and duration issues, continue. This conflicts with a statement by U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager that the negotiation between the two sides was over when the sixth round of bases talks held last week ended in failure. [end recording]

Phaseout Means Total Withdrawal

HK1005105691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1045 Gmt 10 May 91

[Text] Manila, May 10 (AFP)—The Philippine Government Friday said it wants all U.S. military forces out of the country by 1998, rejecting an American proposal for continued access to local bases after a gradual phaseout of the troops.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, chief negotiator in talks on the fate of U.S. air and naval bases in the Philippines, said in a statement that Manila's proposed seven-year phaseout means a total withdrawal.

He was reacting to reports that the Philippines may accede to U.S. demands for continued access to the bases after any phaseout period they agree upon.

Talks collapsed last week after the two allies failed to agree on the duration of a new bases treaty and how much compensation Washington must pay. Manila wanted 825 million dollars annually for seven years, while U.S. officials sought a 10-year lease at 556 million dollars.

"We are allowing the U.S. a maximum duration of seven years, inclusive of phasedown, withdrawal and termination," Mr. Manglapus said Friday.

He said that any proposal for the presence of U.S. troops after the seven-year deadline "will require new negotiations and new arrangements in accordance with the Philippine Constitution."

He added that the Philippines wants to have the "unilateral" option to review the bases arrangements "to determine whether Philippine national interests justify discussions with the United States on post-treaty arrangements."

Maintains Legality of Extension

HK1005031491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 10 May 91 pp 1, 2

[By reporters Arthur I. Bariuad and Mariquit Almario]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manlapus yesterday maintained that the controversial extension clause which could allow the next administration to prolong the stay of U.S. military installations was legal and did not violate the constitution.

House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr., meanwhile, sided with the critics of the clause, saying the fate of the U.S. bases should be decided by the Aquino administration and not by the next government. "The problem is now. It should be solved now," he said.

Mitra also urged the government not to be intimidated by reports that the U.S. Congress would withdrew all aid and grants if American proposals on the bases were not accepted by the Philippines.

"If we assume that we live only on American assistance, then we should not govern this country. It (U.S. aid) should not be the basis of our existence," he added.

Manglapus on Tuesday disclosed that the RP [Republic of the Philippines] negotiating panel which he heads had agreed to the U.S. demand that the extension clause be included in the provisions of the proposed security arrangement, provided the U.S. panel accepted the Philippine offer of seven years duration after the expiration of the present bases treaty in September.

The sixth round of talks between the two panels bogged down last year over the still unresolved issues of compensation and duration. The Philippines wants a compensation package of $825 million annually and a duration of seven years. The U.S. wants a minimum duration of 10 years and offers a maximum of $360 million yearly.

The Manglapus disclosure of the extension clause was immediately met with criticisms from several senators who said the RP panel had no authority to bind the next administration to any agreement it would enter into with the American bases negotiators.

Senate President Jovito Salonga and Senators Ernesto Maceda, Aquilino Pimentel and Leticia Ramos Shahani believed the controversial extension clause would make it even more difficult for the treaty to be ratified by the Senate.

In a press conference at the Foreign Office, Manglapus said: "I want to make it clear that there seems to be some doubts on the legality of this (clause). This has nothing to do with any violation of our Constitution because all it says is that there is a possibility, and it is only a possibility, that we may make a unilateral action on the suggestion of the Americans themselves."

Manglapus said that an access arrangement "beyond seven years is something that should not be a surprise."

He explained that he had already briefed the Senate on the issue long before and that he saw no reason why it should be questioned now. "I have in fact briefed the Senate in enough detail several times and at that time the legality of the proposal of the U.S. which we were accepting was not questioned."

The foreign secretary maintained that there was nothing wrong with the clause. "We stresed very clearly that this government could not bind future government. We are operating in a democratic system and we cannot control the action of the future government. All we can do is mention the possibility in the treaty."

According to Manglapus, the inclusion of the clause was "no indication that such a review will be a bilateral review."

"It is a unilateral review. It is up for the Philippine government to initiate if it wishes to do such a review," he said.

Manglapus reasoned that the "possible extension of access will have to be unilateral decision of the government. The decision is to review the need for future discussions on post-treaty arrangements.

Based on Manglapus' explanation of the "unilateral review clause," only the Philippine government would have the prerogative to extend the tenure of the bases after the agreed term. The U.S. however, wants a more definitive guarantee that an access arrangement at the end of the term will be possible.

Manglapus also said that any post-treaty arrangement must be "in accordance with the Constitution." Asked if the arrangement would need further Senate ratification, he said that the constitutional language was clear.

He also stated that all the Philippine panel could offer to the U.S. was a maximum of seven years alongside the clause. "We already accepted seven plus the provision that would look to the possibility of a unilateral review before the termination period."

Manglapus at the same time dismissed calls from the Senate to terminate the ongoing bases negotiations, saying that he remains hopeful that a treaty could still be forged. He also disclosed that "long-distance" negotiations between him and U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage continued.

"Let me say that the negotiations have not stopped or been suspended because as I explained the last time, what happened was not entirely unpredictable. Mr Armitage himself expected to leave in writing that if we could not accept their proposal for duration, he would have to go back to Washington for new instructions. So this is not surprising, it's not unusual," he stressed.

Salonga Seeks To Privatize U.S. Facilities

HK1005063991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 10 May 91

[Italicized passage in English]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga today said the Senate will only approve the privatization of U.S. facilities, particularly Subic Naval Base. He made the statement in an interview conducted by Radyo ng Bayan. Salonga reiterated that the Senate will not ratify any treaty, whether for compensation or extension of the U.S. bases.

[Begin Salonga recording] I already told Armitage that what will be acceptable to the Senate is to privatize the bases, particularly Subic. That they give their facilities because they will be compensated through a Filipino private corporation. The Filipinos will run the bases and they can be managed by Filipino private corporations. In fact, in Subic, *more than 95 percent of the employees, the workers, are Filipinos.* The Filipinos can manage one of the biggest bases in the world. I suggest that a Filipino private corporation manages Subic. This will be very acceptable to us Filipinos. [end recording]

Finance Chief Urges 'Economic Strategies'

HK1005031691 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 10 May 91 p 1

[By staff member Arleen Chipongian]

[Text] Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao has warned President Aquino that the country's favorable economic performance in the first quarter may be shortlived unless proper economic strategies are taken.

He also raised his objection over the proposed substantial cut in the 9% across-the-board import levy and added that the poor financial shape of the National Power Corp. [NPC] may affect the country's overall credit standing in the international financial community.

Estanislao called the proposal for the levy cut as well as the planned increase in wages as "popularity-raising schemes" which will adversely affect fiscal discipline.

Official documents showed that the country was in danger of losing inflows of already committed foreign loans and grants within three months, unless the country's fiscal problems, specifically the lack of peso counterpart funds for foreign-asisted projects are addressed.

Estanislao has indicated concern over the possible "populist" decisions that the President may adopt, stressing that the Philippines should learn from the lesson of the "failed populist experience" of Latin American countries.

Congress has been pushing for a debt cap on foreign debt payments equivalent to 10% of total export earnings. This same strategy was adopted by Peru, but was reversed when the country was cut off from getting trade financing to finance its imports, among other things.

The documents showed that Estanislao perceived that economic indicators in the first three months, particularly the declining interest rates and the stable peso-dollar rate, showed that the economy was on its way to recovery.

He stressed, however, that the economy was still "fragile" and that the favorable economic performance in the first quarter would be short-lived if the government would throw fiscal discipline to the wind.

Estanislao also mentioned "pressures" for the government to adopt popular moves, like the substantial cuts in the import levy without ensuring that revenue measures are in place to make up for foregone revenues.

The finance department earlier projected that the import tax will generate close to P30 billion [peso].

The levy was imposed in January this year following the inability of Congress to pass the tax measures.

The finance chief also said the government should not allow NPC's financial position to deteriorate to the point that it could no longer borrow from foreign creditors.

Congress had earlier expressed opposition to the planned increase in power rates of NPC, which the government corporation said was necessary to improve its financial books and to ensure repayment of its foreign obligations.

Estanislao went as far as saying to Mrs. Aquino that her political interests might not be served properly if she fell into the populist temptations.

He added that while maintaining fiscal discipline may appear "dry and lacking in drama," it was important to ensure economic stability.

The finance head also said the country's fiscal sector is still "structurally weak," adding that the increase in expenditures must be attributed more to cover wages rather than public investments.

This year, the government has allocated P7 billion for the increase in wages of government workers.

Under the 1991 budget program, the peso counterpart funds for foreign assisted projects were reduced to P22 billion, from the original proposal of P30 billion.

Foreign creditors, especially the World Bank, are worried over the impact of the peso financing cut on the inflows of foreign loans.

Estanislao said that assured inflows of official development assistant (ODA) would bring about confidence of investors in the economy to enable it to grow faster.

This year, government projected an economic growth rate of 1.5-2.5%.

Business Community Foresees Economic Recovery

HK1005032091 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 10 May 91 pp 1, 8

[By staff member Corrie S. Narisma]

[Text] Filipino businessmen foresee a slight rebound in the economy this year and a more dramatic improvement next year, particularly in view of the forthcoming national elections.

Aurelio Periquet Jr., president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), yesterday supported this optimism by citing favorable development such as the softening of crude oil prices, the appreciation of the peso and the increase in the level of the ocuntry's gross international reserves, to $2.5 billion, as of early April, among other things.

The PCCI foresees the inflation rate, which reached a five-year high of 18.6% last month, to settle at 10% by the end of the year.

Periquet said the decline would result from the government's tight monetary program, a more stable exchange rate and an expectation of lower prices.

The softening of oil prices has allayed lingering fears of a runaway inflation and helped restore the consumers' purchasing power and confidence, Periquet said.

Reduced oil prices are also expected to narrow the deficit of the Oil Price Stabilization Fund (OPSF), which is expected to be wiped out by September this year, if crude prices drop further and the foreign exchange rates remain steady.

"With the expected reconstruction boom in the Middle East, there is the anticipated increase in overseas contract workers' remittances by the end of this year or early next year," Periquet added.

These developments, Periquet said, point to a more favorable environment for economic growth this year. But he added that the economic rebound this year would not be very strong.

PCCI shares the same projection of the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) for a modest 1.5% to 2.5% economic growth this year.

The group expects that the economic rebound will be more dramatic next year, particularly in view of the 1992 elections, when, as in the past, candidates are expected to spend billions of pesos. Election spending, Periquet said, would augment the purchasing power of consumers and boost sales, especially of consumer goods. Still, the PCCI head expressed fears that some factors might push some sectors deeper into trouble. These, he said, are the prolonged drought that has so far resulted in crop damage amounting to at least P1.5 billion and the controversial 9% levy on imports.

Some sectors believe the levy might do more harm than good to the economy.

The PCCI urged the government to immediately exempt capital equipment importation from the levy.

Importation of capital equipment and business expansion have been deferred because of the levy, the PCCI pointed out.

Alberto Fenix Jr., PCCI vice president and chairman of the 17th Philippine Business Confernce, said the government might not be able to generate the revenues it expects from the levy because of the slump in importation.

Fenix said it is important to exempt capital equipment from the levy because they are used for the expansion of the productive capacity of businesses.

"While importation of capital equipment is being delayed, production does not improve and investments and job opportunities are lost," Periquet said.

Chief of Staff on Determining Military Success

HK0905050891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 May 91 p 21

[Text] Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff said yesterday the military has adopted a new way to determine the success of the government's counter-insurgency program.

Abadia said operations under "Lambat Bitag [Net Trap]," his project when he was the chief of the AFP operations (J-3), will be evaluated in terms of its economic, social, and political values.

"We would like to know the exact indication that we have defeated the communists in a certain community by means of concrete indicators," Abadia was quoted as saying in a report.

He expressed optimism the integrated military-civilian approach would also improve the government straetgy to end the insurgency problem soon.

"An economic indicator to determine the success of the government's counter-insurgency efforts would be the revenue level of community, business, and economic activities, and alleviation of poverty," he said.

The social indicator, Abadia said, will include civilian evacuees as a result of battles, anti-military and anti-government sentiments among the population, active and supportive non-government organizations, dispensation of justice, and labor activism.

The political indicator will show the restoration of the government's legal authority and functions in areas cleared of communism, cooperation, and aggressiveness of local officials, and active peace and order councils, he said.

Abadia, Aguirre's 'Word War' Affects Country

HK0905052491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos declared today that the ongoing feud between Lieutenant General Abadia and Major General Alexander Aguirre is gravely affecting the military and the country as a whole. Because of this, Ramos is appealing to the two generals to put a stop to their word war. Here is more from Josette Olivera.

[Begin Olivera recording] Currently, Ramos admitted that he met with President Corazon Aquino last December and discussed plans for the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] following the retirement from the service of former AFP chief General Renato de Villa. Ramos said that they submitted criteria for consideration in choosing the next chief of the AFP in the event De Villa retired. Ramos stressed the said criteria applies not only to AFP Chief General Rodolfo Biazon who replaced De Villa, but to Abadia as well, who is now the current chief of the AFP. According to Ramos, it was President Aquino who chose the AFP chief, and they did not submit any recommendation from the line of officers. [end recording]

Appointment of Abadia Seen as Prearranged

HK0905051191 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 14

[Text] The controversial appointment of Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia as Armed Forces chief of staff was sealed as early as October last year and was a personal decision of President Aquino.

Retired Maj. Gen. Mariano Adalem, the President's former military adviser, disclosed this yesterday at a hearing of the Commission on Appointment's committee on defense.

Adalem said Ms. Aquino had handpicked Abadia to replace retired Gen. Renato de Villa as AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief several months before she appointed retired Gen. Rodolfo Biazon to the top AFP post.

Adalem said that as early as October last year, President Aquino wanted Abadia and Brig. Gen. Arturo Enrile included in the list of senior AFP officers who were to be screened as replacements of De Villa.

He also admitted when questioned by opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile that Abadia was promoted as Army chief first to make him qualify to the top AFP post and to allow Biazon a short stint as chief of staff.

The President, Adalem said, was very impressed with Abadia's "potentials" and his role in crushing the December 1989 coup attempt.

Adalem said he supported the President's decision, but his testimony bolstered charges made by Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre that the appointment of Abadia was "a seemingly innocent but calculated move" to bypass older generals.

He also admitted during the hearing that the letters of Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and Biazon endorsing the appointment of Abadia were prepared only after Ms. Aquino had decided in a meeting with them that Abadia would be the new AFP chief.

Enrile said the procedure Ms. Aquino followed in appointing Abadia could be a violation of AFP rules.

He said Adalem's testimony confirmed suspicions that the appointment of Biazon was a "consuelo de bobo" [consolation] intended just to please Biazon and give Abadia a few months to prepare for the top AFP post.

During the jampacked hearing, Aguirre repeated his charge that political backers had allowed Abadia to overtake more senior and more qualified officers.

Abadia said he did not have any political backing and would disobey orders from superiors in government if the orders would violate the Constitution.

"If ever I will be pressured to do what I deem is contrary to the Constitution, I will resign," Abadia said.

Aguirre said he had a "bombshell" against Abadia, but he was stopped from dropping it by Sen. Mamintal Tamano, committee chairman, because of lack of time.

Military, NPA Increase Troops in Bicol Region

HK0905051591 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 May 91 p 12

[By Ramon Imperial]

[Text] Camp Canuto, Pili, Camarines Sur—The Bicol region is again shaping up to be a combat zone as both the government and the New People's Army (NPA) continue to pour men into the area.

Army troops, tanks and other military hardware started arriving here last week to counter a reported build-up of NPA forces in the region. Col. Victor Mayo, commanding officer of the Army's 201st brigade here and Bicol Army chief, said he had asked for four more battalions because of intelligence reports that the communist rebels had moved some 600 men from Samar, Mindoro and Quezon provinces into the Bicol region. It is possible, he said, that more may have came in.

Mayo said the additional soldiers will beef up forces of the 1st, 2nd and 22nd infantry battalions now deployed in Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte and Albay while the rest will be assigned to Sorsogon and the island province of Masbate, scene of the recent ambush-killing of its PNP [Philippine National Police] provincial chief and two of his men.

Prior to the Masbate ambush a spokesman of the NPA's Bicol Reformist Group told the local media that their command was undertaking a new wave [of] attacks, including the assassination of military and civilian officials.

The attacks, he said, included the raids on PNP and military detachments in Albay and Sorsogon, the siege on the town hall of Lupi, Camarines Sur and an earlier foray into Cauayan, Masbate where a ranch of Speaker Ramon Mitra was reportedly divested of some cattle and foreign-bred fighting cocks.

Mayo, however, has belittled the NPA threat, saying the rebel move into Bicol is really a withdrawal because they are being battered by the Army in the three nearby provinces.

Their massing in Bicol, he said, has no strategic importance and is more in preparation for NPA terror and harassment activities in the coming elections.

Ramos Welcomes Meeting Between Honasan, Abadia

HK1005040891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 May 91 p 16

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos welcomed yesterday the reported plan of rebel former colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan to meet with Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, describing it as an "open opportunity for top rebel leaders to return to the fold of the law."

"We welcome this development," Ramos said in a press conference at Camp Aguinaldo.

But although the government has been implementing reconcilatory programs for both rightist and leftist elements, Ramos said the standing policy of the national ledership is for selective amnesty which excludes top rebel officers already convicted or still undergoing trial on coup-related or rebellion crimes.

Ramos ruled out general amnesty for top officers of the outlawed Reform the Armed Forcs Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP), saying that they should first be tried in court to determine the extent of their guilt.

Abadia said Honasan, a dismissed Army lieutenant colonel who was tagged the leader of soldiers who tried to overthrow the government, sent him feelers indicating his desire to meet with the AFP chief through a third party.

But it was not immediately known if Honasan was planning to surrender to government authorities.

Abadia, however expressed willingness to meet Honasan without any conditions. "I can talk to him in any place and without security," he said.

The AFP chief said "I am going to risk anything to resolve some of the problems that we have."

Although his "personal move" on Honasan does not require the permission of President Aquino, Abadia said she told him to be "very careful."

Scout Rangers Reactivated 16 May

HK1005035091 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 10 May 19 pp 1, 12

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos announced yesterday that the First Scout Ranger regiment which was disbanded after it took part in the December 1989 coup attempt would be reactivated to fight communist rebels.

Ramos said the reactivation of the elite unit was recommended by Armed Forces chief of staff Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia and was the "product of a long study."

The decision follows an upsurge in fighting between the military and the New People's Army.

The regiment, which was formerly composed of 187 officers and 3,739 men, was disbanded after the government crushed the December 1989 coup attempt by rebellious troops in which the Scout Rangers played an important part. This time, the unit will be composed of about 80 officers and 1,300 enlisted men.

Army chief Brig. Gen. Arturo Enrile has named Col. Julius Javier to head the new Scout Rangers, which will be reactivated effective May 16.

A former Scout Ranger battalion commander in Negros island, Javier is reputed to be one of the most respected officers in the Army. He graduated from the Philippine Military Academy in 1970.

Some 500 Scout Rangers occupied hotels and apartment buildings during a standoff in Makati during the nine-day rebellion, the sixth and most serious attempt by mutinous troops to oust President Aquino.

Some of the rebel Ranger officers and enlisted men were captured or had surrendered and are being court-martialed for mutiny and rebellion.

The military had found that most of the members of the regiment had been deceived into joining the coup attempt and were exonerated, but the then Army commander, Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanbando, recommended disbanding the entire unit.

Initially, one Ranger company of about 115 officers and men will be assigned to each of the Army's eight infantry divisions, Ramos said.

"In no time, it will be deployed in battalion size," he said. Three companies comprise one battalion.

The Rangers are the elite corps of the Army, trained in small unit operations and fighting in the jungles for long periods.

Rafael Ileto, Ms. Aquino's national security adviser, formed the corps to spearhead the successful campaign against the Huk rebellion in the 1950s. It was deactivated in the 1960s due to reported abuses by its members but was later reactivated by Brig. Gen. Felix Brawner to fight the New People's Army.

Reactivation following its disbandment in December 1989 follows warnings by Sen. Ernesto Maceda that the rebels are gaining the upper hand in some areas, including northern Luzon and Mindanao.

Maceda cited military reports that showed the government suffered more casualties than the guerrillas during the first four months of this year.

Abadia had vowed to win a "strategic victory" over the rebels by the time Ms. Aquino finishes her term in June 1992.

Abadia said the rebel strength had gone down from a peak of about 25,000 guerrillas in 1987 to about 17,000 in 1990.

Military Claims Victory Over NPA in Negros

HK0905145091 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 9 May 91 p 2

[By Johnny Arasga]

[Text] Brigadier General Raymundo Jarque, commanding general of the Philippine Army's Negros Island Command, announced yesterday that government forces have defeated the New People's Army [NPA] in the province.

According to the latest report received by Jarque, the leftist movement has fallen by 70 percent due to the government's continued operation against the communist rebels.

Based on documents seized from slain NPA rebels, it was learned that the movement's condition has worsened due to the arrest of some of its top officials.

In the seized documents, the rebels admitted that their organization has been slowly experiencing defeat since the government's "Operation Thunderbolt" was launched in 1989, which resulted in the dismantling of a Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP]-NPA training camp on Negros Island.

It was also stated that of the 23,843 total membership of the National Democratic Front [NDF] in 1989, at most only 7,092 were left as of January 1991 due to the military's continuous offensives.

A statement by the second-highest-ranking CPP-NPA official in Negros District 6 admitted that the arrest and resignation of Nemesio Demafiles and Diting Estackio, and the deaths of Ed Federico and former priest Vicente Pallobello, leader of the Regional United Front Committee, have had a devastating effect on the movement.

The document also noted that some of the reasons for the communist rebels' continued defeats are the lack of financial support for the movement; weak leadership at various levels; lack of discipline; lack of firm resolve to fight for the party; only high-ranking officials enjoying benefits and privileges; and over 50 percent of the members in the mountains being sick with typhoid and malaria.

Meanwhile, Comrade Roger (Gregorio Rosal), spokesman of the NPA Melito Glor Command in Southern Tagalog, stressed that their group is open to negotiations for the trial and release of five prisoners of war, namely Captain Enrico Salapong, Technical Sergeant [TSG] Yolasda Soberano, TSG Rogelio Javier, Sgt. Jesus Goseda and Constable Cesar Garcia.

At the same time, he denied his reported contact with Governor Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna regarding a plan to surrender.

Marag Valley Rehabilitation Plan Approved

HK0905051891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 May 91 p 21

[Text] The Cabinet Cluster E on security and political matters approved yesterday a P14-million [peso] comprehensive plan to provide basic services for residents of Marag Valley in Cagayan province, a former lair of the New People's Army (NPA).

It also agreed that offensive military operations in the valley should not be resumed, considering that the insurgents have fled the area.

The agreements reached by the Cluster E in its meeting at Malacanang were disclosed by its chairman, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, who said a consensus was reached "to consolidate government services and make the people feel that indeed government is back at Marag Valley."

Marag valley was the target of military offensives against NPA members, resulting in the departure of many residents from their homes.

Drilon said all civilian government agencies will provide services to that people such as schools and health centers.

He added that the AFP and the Department of National Defense (DND) have sent two engineering battalions to build a seven-kilometer road to provide access to Marag Valley. They have also sent medical and dental teams to the area.

Communist Leader Pleads Guilty to Rebellion

HK1005065391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Rodolfo Salas, alias Commander Bilog, admitted today before the Manila Regional Trial Court that he is guilty of rebellion. In connection with this, the sentence reading against Salas was set for Tuesday. Bilog has been detained for four years.

3 Communist Officials Elude Government Troops

HK0905051291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 21

[Text] San Agustin, Surigao del Sur—Three top officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA) Kumisyon Mindanao [Mindanao Commission] (KOMMID) yesterday eluded government troops hunting them in Surigao del Sur mountains.

In related developments:

1. Ilocos Sur Rep. Eric D. Singson sought yesterday in a privilege speech the end of hostilities between the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and the New People's Army "because insurgency will not be eradicated by armed conflict."

2. Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, new AFP chief of staff, said the military has adopted a new way to determine the success of the government's counter-insurgency program.

3. A Cabinet group approved a P14-million [peso] plant to provide basic services for residents of Marag Valley in Cagayan, a former lair of the rebels.

Those who escaped from three days bombing raids and ground battles in Surigao del Sur were Alfredo Mapano, KOMMID-Northern Mindanao secretary; Francisco Mejorda, NPA regional command chief of staff; and former priest Francisco Navarro, alias "Ka [Comrade] Migo," finance and political officer.

Government soldiers, supported by helicopter gunships, strike planes, and artillery, had earlier launched a manhunt for them.

During bombing raids and rocket fire by the Philippine Air Force 15th Strike Wing and 205th Helicopter Wing, Mapano, Mejorada, Navarro, and some of their men, including the wounded, reportedly sought cover in a World War II tunnel at the San Agustin-Marihatad complex.

Soldiers found guns, food, medicine, and personal belongings in the abandoned camps and along the escape route.

Army field commanders said many rebels were killed and wounded as shown by bloodstains.

In Agusan del Sur, Philippine National Police Superintendent Acmad Omar, said a female NPA commander in the southwestern part of Davao del Norte surrendered to him and vowed to support the AFP counter-insurgency campaign.

Omar identified her as Miraflor Pontera, alias "Bonog." She is temporarily held at PNP headquarters in Prosperidad town for tactical interrogation.

Meanwhile, troops in Agusan del Norte and Sur, Surigao del Norte and Sur, the cities of Butuan and Surigao were alerted, following reports that NPA rebels are regrouping to attack local AFP headquarters.

Other government installations and multinational companies were given more soldiers to tighten security. Warplanes and helicopter gunships were also on alert, awaiting orders from field commanders.

Malacanang, Taiwan on Meeting To Defuse Tension

HK1005032291 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 10 May 91 pp 1, 8

[By staff member Lito Zulueta]

[Text] A Malacanang official met with Taiwanese authorities in Taiwan last week to defuse the tension between Manila and Taipei over a maritime dispute triggered by the recent arrest by the Philippine Coast Guard of nine Taiwanese fishermen off Batanes, Malacanang officials said yesterday.

The disclosure was made a day after Foreign Undersecretary Manuel Yan rejected semi-official talks between Manila and Taipei on grounds that such contacts would give the island-country diplomatic status. The Philippines, under its "one-China" policy, considers Taiwan only a province of China.

The officials insisted the meeting did not violate the country's one-China policy, since Manila's recognition of Beijing as the legitimate Chinese government does not preclude economic and people-to-people relations with Taiwan.

Roberto V. Lucila, assistant executive secretary, took a leave of office to meet with the Taiwanese, the sources said. Lucila, they said, was acting under the instructions of Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos.

In an interview, Lucila said the officials explained that the intrusion by the three Taiwanese vessels into Philippine waters was "an innocent passage."

He said Taiwan proposed a fishery cooperation agreement similar to its accord with Indonesia to prevent similar disputes in the future. The document will be private, not official, and may be between the fishing associations of both countries.

Malacanang sources said a Taiwanese official will arrive this month to work out the agreement. Lucila said, however, nothing had been finalized yet.

Lucila's visit to Taipei preceded President Aquino's creation last Monday of the South China Sea Fishery Disputes Committee to look for solutions to conflicts that arise out of misunderstandings between foreign fishing vessels and the Philippines. Lucila will be its chairman.

Mrs. Aquino's creation of the committee was her response to Taiwan's protest over the arrest of its fishermen last month.

Lucila said the committee is still looking into the April incident, but is also studying options to forestall or resolve future disputes.

He said he had requested Agriculture Secretary Senen Bacani to formulate policy guidelines for the committee. In addition, he had conferred with Sen. Agapito Aquino, chairman of the Senate committee on agriculture, to seek legislative guidance on the matter.

Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani said yesterday the the Executive Branch's "flip-flopping" on Philippine policy towards Taiwan was slowing efforts to develop workable ties with both Beijing and Taipei.

She lamented that the foreign office has been sticking to its "conservative and rigid interpretation" of the One-China policy.

The Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA], in an apparent turnabout from testimony before the Senate, said Tuesday that even semi-official ties with Taiwan was tantamount to official recognition by Taiwan.

However, Orbos' office and the Cabinet Cluster on security issues said it favors legislation upgrading economic, social and cultural ties with Taiwan.

Shahani said she does not know whether Malacanang supports or not the bill allowing quasi-official ties with countries Manila has no official ties with.

"It seems that it is the DFA that is dealing with China and the Office of the Executive Secretary, with Taiwan," she said.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus confirmed Shahani's perception. He said his office "is not dealing with the Taiwan government, it's Malacanang."

He said, however, that he had been consulted on the Taiwan problem. He said the dispute calls for multi-agency response and would be taken up by the Cabinet's Cluster E.

Meanwhile, naval authorities said they have limited capability to patrol the country's territorial waters but pledged nonetheless to increase their presence in disputed areas to deter futher intrusions by foreign vessels.

More than 1,500 Taiwanese fishing boats have been reported to have intruded into Philippine waters since 1987 but only less than 100 were intercepted.

Recent intelligence reports also linked the increase in Taiwanese intrusions to smuggling, gunrunning, and other acts against national security.

Thailand

General Dimisses Rumors of Counter-Coup

BK1005002191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 May 91 p 1

[Text] Former deputy prime minister Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan yesterday dismissed widespread rumours that soldiers loyal to him had tried to stage a counter-coup against the military leadership.

The rumours came at the height of the full military alert ordered by Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Kongsomphong on May 3, the day when martial law was lifted.

Gen Thianchai said speculation that soldiers at the Lop Buri Special Warfare centre would stage a rebellion in his favour was an insult to the unit's integrity and loyalty.

"The unit (the Special Warfare Centre) is a highly-disciplined military force whose members strictly follow the orders of their commander," said Gen Thianchai, who at one time commanded the unit.

The general, who had announced he would quit as leader of the Ratsadon Party after his name was included on a list of 25 politicians being investigated for "unusual wealth", said he had kept a low profile since the February 23 military takeover.

Assembly Repeals Ban on Political Activities

BK0905142791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] The National Legislative Assembly today passed, in three readings, the draft bill proposed by the cabinet to repeal the Seventh, 19th, and 20th Announcements of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC]. The meeting started at 1400 when the president of the National Legislative Assembly declared the session open after all members were present. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun was also present at the session. The draft bill was read to the assembly session by Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan:

[Begin recording, in progress] ... as a ban on political gatherings or political activities is no longer necessary, the government therefore deemed it appropriate to repeal the Seventh Announcement of the NPKC prohibiting political gatherings; the 19th Announcement of the NPKC indefinitely postponing elections of members of provincial administrative councils, municipal councils, and local sanitation committees; and the 20th Announcement of the NPKC prohibiting meetings and other activities by political parties, all issued on 23 February 1991. The promulgation of the present bill is to serve this purpose. [end recording]

The assembly deliberated in support of the draft bill and unanimously voted for it in the third reading.

Suchinda Opposes Cabinet Plan To Free Detainees

BK0905031591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 May 91 p A1

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun yesterday snubbed the government's move to seek the release of political dissidents arrested under martial law for challenging the National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC).

The Cabinet on Tuesday adopted a bill seeking to revoke the military's restrictions on political movement and to cancel all legal charges against 57 people arrested under martial law.

"No," Suchinda snapped when a reporter asked him about the appeal. "Nobody is above the law ... Anyone who commits a crime will have to be punished according to the law."

Suchinda said it was up to the police to deal with the dissidents.

The Cabinet plans to put the government-sponsored bill seeking to annul three announcements issued by the military junta after seizing power in the Feb 23 coup before the military-dominated assembly today.

Announcements Nos 7, 19 and 20 ban political gatherings of five people or more, indefinitely postpone municipal and provincial council elections and prohibit the activities of political parties.

The announcements were issued along with the imposition of martial law. The caretaker government, with the military's consent, lifted martial law in most parts of the country last week.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun told reporters after his Cabinet approved the bill that the draft legislation would also seek to exempt the 57 university students and farmers arrested under martial law from legal action.

Forty university lecturers and political activists issued an open statement on Monday asking the provisional government to drop charges against the 57 and a labour researcher.

Fifteen Ramkhamhaeng University students were arrested after they staged a demonstration against the military takeover, defying the NPKC's order banning political gatherings. They have been released on bail but still face a maximum six-month jail term or a fine of Bt10,000 [baht] or both if convicted.

Forty-two farmers from Yasothon Province were charged in military court with violating martial law after they gathered to protest against a reservoir project.

Anan did not say whether the government had consulted the NPKC about its plan to submit the bill to the National Assembly.

Gen Suchinda yesterday also brushed aside criticism that the military was trying to undermine the party system by freezing the assets of 25 politicians and placing them under investigation for being "unusually rich."

He said whether or not the people have faith in the party system depended on how the existing political parties perform.

General Chawalit Denies Rumors of Ill Health

HK1005090791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Bangkok, May 10 (AFP)—Chawalit Yongchaiyut, strongly tipped to become Thailand's next prime minister, has dismissed rumours that he is in ill health, political sources said here Friday.

The former armed forces chief, who is to turn 59 in a few days, had been said to have been sick, and, according to some sources, to have recently suffered a stroke.

On Thursday, General Chawalit, whose surprise resignation from the government last year marked the first major crisis of the administration of then prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan, received a courtesy call from U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Daniel O'Donohue.

During the meeting, the general told the envoy, who is to leave Thailand soon, that he was in good health, political sources said.

After his resignation from the government, Gen. Chawalit set up the New Aspiration Party (NAP) and has been billed by analysts as likely, with support from powerful elements inside the military, to become the premier.

The junta that toppled Mr. Chatchai in the February 23 bloodless coup has promised to hold elections by April next year.

Gen. Chawalit resigned early last year as Supreme Commander and army chief to join Mr. Chatchai's government as deputy prime minister and defense minister.

He left the government following attacks by other ministers in Mr. Chatchai's shaky coalition against his personal and political integrity.

Exporters on Deterring Effects of Section 301

BK1005104791 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 10 May 91 p 4

[Text] The Thai textile and canning industries are trying their best to avoid effects from U.S. Section 301. Exporters are lobbying their customers to maintain import levels.

Addressing a seminar entitled "Faring Through Section 301" at the Central Plaza Hotel on 8 May, President of the Thai Textile Industry Association Wirot Amatakunchai said that he hoped the Thai textile industry would not be subject to retaliation by the United States under Section 301 following U.S. designation of Thailand as a priority foreign country. He said the textile industry was not responsible for the current trade row between Thailand and the United States, and the United States therefore should not select it for retaliation. He said he would lodge a complaint with the Textile Scrutiny Board, which is an international organization, if the United States chooses to raise tariffs on textile products.

Wirot also reported groups of textile importers in the United States ready to lobby their government. Wirot said what he is concerned about now is the immediate impact caused by speculations about products to be targeted under Section 301. He said this would cause both the exporters and importers to be perplexed about the situation, and could create considerable trade damage. He said it would take about two months in order to know how importers in the United States would react to the situation and whether they would lose trade confidence.

A source at the Thai canned seafood exporters' association said the group is also trying to convince importers that their products would not be subject to higher tariffs. The exporters also want U.S. importers to lobby the USTR [United States Trade Representative] not to raise the tariff on canned seafood. The source also believed that the Thai delegation would be able to find the best solution to the problem and that exporters should not panic.

Movement Warned Against Seeking Foreign Support

BK0805143591 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
8 May 91 p 3

[Editorial: "Thailand Is Not a Defendant before the ILO"]

[Text] It was well-meaning and appropriate for the Labor Congress of Thailand and the Thai Trade Unions Congress, which jointly held a seminar on "The Role of Labor Unions in National Development," when their purpose was to protect employees under exploitation by employers. But their move to get help from the ILO [International Labor Office] to pressure Thailand is unacceptable. It is like extending an invitation to enemies to meddle in our country.

Not only did the delegates from the ILO participate in the seminar, but there were also representatives from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions [ICFTU], the U.S. Labor Council, and the Japanese labor union. During a news conference at the end of the seminar, those delegates said they would make efforts to pressure Thailand at the international forums and will urge the international community to impose trade sanctions against Thailand under the pretext of labor rights violation.

Delegates, particularly of the ICFTU, arrogantly demanded Thailand to revoke the new law which excludes state enterprise workers from the labor relations act. They threatened to expose to the world community the state of labor in Thailand, both of the private and public sector, at the ILO conference in June. They said the case would be publicized worldwide if no improvements are made by Thailand. The ILO will send delegates with more authority to Thailand to listen to Thailand's explanations.

We would like to remind our compatriots that the ILO will have no meaning as long as we do not give it meaning. Thailand is not a defendant before anyone and there is no need for us to explain anything to anybody. Because of such arrogance, the United States once rejected this organization and refused to pay annual fees to it. The United States sees that the organization has come under the domination of socialist countries. Well, Thailand is not a slave of the organization, and we can also ignore it.

The way of life in one country differs from that in another. The standard set by the ILO cannot be applied everywhere. No country in this world, not even the Soviet Union, would tolerate its labor force creating turmoil and trouble. Only last month the United States passed in three readings a bill banning strikes by railway workers. Not all countries in the world have ratified the ILO conventions. Many, including several world powers, have not ratified ILO conventions.

The Thai people once had sympathy for the state enterprise labor force, but now they have changed their mind. How can one have sympathy for the persons who are urging foreigners to make threats to Thailand?

Army Warns Burma of Retaliation Against Shelling

BK1005014791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
10 May 91 p 6

[Text] Mae Sot—Thai security forces will shoot back when Burmese artillery and mortars hit Thailand, Task Force 34 Chief-of-Staff Col Thammanun Thipwatchara said yesterday.

A smoke shell will be fired as a warning if a stray shell from Burma lands on Thai soil, but if the warning is not heeded, a real shell will be fired, he said.

Eight artillery shells, believed fired by Burmese troops, smashed into Wang Takian Village here on May 2, wounding two people and damaging eight houses.

Burmese authorities are expected to survey the damage before compensation is paid.

Security along the border here has reportedly been stepped up, with two V-150 armoured cars and two 105-mm artillery guns being posted near the border.

Thai authorities had charged that during September 1988 and July 1989, 140 stray artillery and mortar shells had landed in five villages here and in Tha Song Yang District.

On May 19, 1989, about 500 Burmese troops crossed the border in pursuit of Karen rebels, and about 300 houses in Ban Wang Kaew were set ablaze during fierce fighting.

Anan, Khmer Factions Enjoy Warm Relations

BK1005032591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
10 May 91 p A8

[Article by Somphong Kittinaradon entitled: "Khmer Factions Pleased With Anan"]

[Text] The Anan administration's policy towards Cambodia has become much clearer to all the parties concerned following the recent flurry of diplomatic activities in Bangkok.

On the surface, the administration is continuing the previous government's policy of maintaining contacts with all four Cambodian factions, including the Phnom Penh administration. But deep down, the relationship has undergone subtle but significant changes

At least, that is how the Cambodian resistance groups see it.

"No more hot line between Bangkok and Phnom Penh," said one senior resistance official, reflecting the general impression of the resistance coalition following the first meeting between Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and the leaders of the three resistance groups at Government House late last month.

The three leaders attending the talks were Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, Khieu Samphan of the Khmer Rouge and Prince Norodom Ranariddh of the force loyal to former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Two days after Premier Anan held the well-publicized talks with the three Cambodian resistance leaders, he received Premier Hun Sen at his Soi Paidi Madi residence.

Hun Sen also had separate meetings with Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Kongsomphong, the National Peacekeeping Council chairman, and his deputy chairman, Army Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, during his stopover here on his way back to Phnom Penh from Tokyo, where he underwent a medical checkup and met senior Japanese diplomats.

There are three major reasons why the Cambodian resistance groups were happy with the Anan government. This, despite the warm welcome that the Thai leaders gave Hun Sen.

First, the meeting between Anan and the three resistance leaders was hastily arranged after Hun Sen requested through diplomatic channels a series of meetings with Thai military and government leaders during his stopover here.

The Thai side did not want to reject the request but was concerned that the series of meetings with Hun Sen alone would give the wrong signal about the Thai government's stance toward the rival Cambodian factions.

Plans for Anan to meet the three resistance leaders before receiving Hun Sen were said to be the work of Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, who has close working relations with both the premier and the military backers of the interim government.

"The purpose is to show that the new Thai government has a preference for a Cambodia represented by all factions," one official Thai source explained.

Second, the premier held discussions with the three Cambodian coalition leaders at Government House while his meeting with Hun Sen was more of a private one given the venue of the talks.

What Anan said at his talks with the resistance leaders also contributed to what resistance sources describe as a new sense of confidence in the Thai leadership after a period of uncertainty under the administration of Gen Chatchai Chunhawan.

The premier told the resistance leaders that his interim administration had been busy settling immediate domestic problems and may have not given the Cambodian issue enough time or attention.

Ranariddh was quoted as replying: "Not at all, your excellency. Thailand has a very important role to play as a front-line state and her voice will be considered by all concerned."

Anan's remark that he liked to refer to the three Indochinese nations in alphabetical order—Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam—obviously pleased the resistance leaders.

When Ranariddh asked for Thai agricultural training for Cambodians after a political settlement is reached, Anan immediately accepted it and instructed Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa to help process the request.

At one point during the conversation, Son Sann complained that the United States had suspended aid to the non-communist Cambodian factions on the ground that the resistance fighters had allegedly collaborated with Khieu Samphan's Khmer Rouge troops.

That prompted Anan to turn to Khieu Samphan. "How about you—people say your (group) is communist?," the premier was quoted as saying.

Khieu Samphan politely brushed aside the accusation, claiming that the Khmer Rouge had abandoned communist ideology. The atmosphere was notably tense at that point but Anan handled it well.

"Sixteen years ago, I was also accused of being a communist and now they have picked me as prime minister. In any society there are always hardliners and softliners and society changes its attitude to them as time passes by," Anan reportedly said, easing the tension.

Ranariddh was quoted as adding that US contributions to a settlement of the Cambodian conflict should be viewed in two areas, diplomacy and humanitarian assistance.

In the diplomatic realm, Washington has played a very contructive role by defining a clear linkage between the question of normalizing ties with Vietnam and the settlement of the Cambodian conflict on the basis of the peace plan authored by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, Ranariddh said. He singled out the four-step plan proposed by Washington as a clear example of Washington's positive role in the diplomatic arena.

In reply, Anan noted tongue-in-cheek that the US had also suspended much of its aid to Thailand as a result of the Feb 23 coup.

The premier also noted the important role of Japan, particularly in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia after a political settlement. Concerning China, he said that Beijing had a very crucial role to play in the political settlement of the question.

But the most important remark by the premier was his assurance that the Thai government will support any endeavours contributing to restoration of peace in Cambodia based on the UN peace plan, the framework of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and equal opportunities for all the Cambodian factions. The point well received and welcomed by the resistance leaders was that the warring factions would be treated on an equal footing.

SRV Trade Mission Announces Processing Zone

BK1005034391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 May 91 p 26

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City will set up its first export processing zone near its airport and relatively close to ports, road and rail facilities, according to a Vietnamese trade and investment mission.

The 13-man delegation from Ho Chi Minh City, headed by Nguyen Cong Ai, outlined details of Saigon Export Processing Zone (SEPZONE) at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand [FCCT] on Wednesday night.

The delegation arrived in Bangkok on Sunday and is scheduled to leave tomorrow. Included in the delegation are Le Van Cu and Nguyen Long Thao, both vice directors of the Saigon Export Processing Zone.

In a prepared statement, the delegation said the SEPZONE will be the first in the country offering potential investors an "ideal position, abundant workforce, broad incentives, carefully designed services and facilities, efficient management and enormous consumer market."

Although the delegation did not say when the exports processing zone will be established, it said the zone will be in a 58 hectare plot with room to expand up to 100 ha.

The zone will be in a suburban area about 19 kilometres from Ho Chi Minh City.

"SEPZONE is very conveniently located regarding transport: it lies on the municipal highway belt leading to a railway station called Song Taan only two kilometres away and just off highway one, the country's main north-south highway," the statement said.

The SEPZONE will have access to the new port—Saigon Port—and Ben Nghe Port 14.5 and 22 kilometres away respectively. Tan Son Nhan International Airport is 25 kilometres away.

The delegation said investors will also have access to another 1,000 ha in Cat Lai, which will later be connected to the SEPZONE by a highway system.

The SEPZONE is considered a priority project regarding power supply and lies right in the main course of the national electricity network which will ensure uninterrupted power supply, the delegation said.

A water plant capable of supplying 10,000 cubic metre of water daily will be located two kilometres away from the SEPZONE.

Apart from the telecommunications and postal facilities of Ho Chi Minh City, a microwave system will be installed to transit information between the SEPZONE and Ho Chi Minh City Central switchboard and ensure SEPZONE's internal and external communications through fax and telex system, the statement said.

According to the delegation, SEPZONE land can be acquired only by foreign investors through rent.

Maximum rental terms are for 50 years with space allocated in 2,000 square metre pliots in which investors can rent several sub-plots depending on their requirements.

The statement said rental is payable two ways: a lump sum payment at a fixed price throughout the lease term or annual payments subject to price adjustments every five years. The rental increases, if any, will not exceed 10 percent a year.

The delegation said it prefers non-polluting, light industry investments which are labour intensive using high technology and equipment and utilising locally available resources.

Foreign organisations and individuals can invest in the SEPZONE in two forms, joint ventures or 100 per foreign invested capital.

The delegation outlined a number of incentives for investors in the SEPZONE:

—Non-requisition and non-nationalisation of factories and enterprises.
—Convenient and quick administration and services following the "one-stop service principle".
—Simple procedures regarding immigration, import, export and customs control and guaranteed quick import and export of goods.

The delegation also said investors are entitled to certain tax privilages such as:

—Duty free imports of equipment and raw materials to be used in production.
—Duty free exports of finished products.
—Exemption or reduction of corporate income tax (profit tax).
—Special standards for profit-remittance tax and for taxes on other revenue.
—Freedom of recruiting and employing labour.
—Other incentives accorded in export processing zones worldwide.

During the presentation at the FCCT, the delegation was asked whether joint ventures or firms operating in Vietnam with 100 percent foreign ownership would be able to own land.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung admitted ownership of land remains a problem to be solved.

"We have had to consider this problem; a number of studies have been made but not yet finalised," he said, adding that an examination has to be made to see how ownership of land by foreign firms can "fit" into local laws.

He said one problem is how long a firm can possess land in Vietnam, adding that a proposal has been made that this should be between 20 and 30 years while foreign investors have suggested a longer period between 50 and 99 year leases.

"We are still in the process to find a way through our legal system," Ambassador Nguyen Trung said.

Asked if Vietnam has a commercial code and what system is applied in the enforcement of business contracts, the ambassador said the government has issued a number of laws and decrees.

He said the laws issued are not complete but the Vietnamese government has tried to cover things outside the existing law by using new instruments, such as working out bilateral agreements with respective countries.

Such bilateral agreements include agreement on mutual protection of investment and avoidance of double taxation.

SRV Trade Team Chief on Kidnapping Case

BK1005025391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 May 91 p 1

[Excerpts] The leader of a 13-man Vietnamese trade and investment delegation visiting Thailand has said he would look into the alleged kidnapping of a Thai businessman in Ho Chi Minh City over a business dispute.

Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City Nguyen Cong Ai promised to look into the allegations during a meeting with Banchoet Kritsanawonghong and his wife Ratcharin on Wednesday night. [passage omitted]

When asked about the incident at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand on Wednesday night, Vice Chairman Nguyen Cong Ai said: "I only learnt of this news in the Thai Press."

Mr Cong Ai said he had not yet received enough information about the case.

Asked whether Ho Chi Minh authorities were concerned about reported kidnappings of businessmen, Mr Cong Ai said:

"Not only is the People's Committee concerned but everyone has to be concerned."

He had only heard of the case after his arrival in Bangkok on May 5, he added. The delegation is to leave on Saturday.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung said that "crime everywhere has to be punished."

He said that in the development of economic ties between Thailand and Vietnam, "good and bad" things occur every day.

The good things are the growth of trade and business between the two countries, he said, "But we must acknowledge the negative things."

Every month, thousands of Thais visit Vietnam and vice versa, he said, adding that there are many problems to be solved on both sides.

He said the problem of Thai trawlers allegedly intruding into Vietnamese territorial waters is one such problem.

Delegation Meets With Iranian Leaders

BK0905153391 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, minister attached to the Office of the Prime Minister, who led a Thai goodwill mission to Iran, presented a message from the Thai prime minister to Iranian Vice President Habibi urging a revival of friendly relations between the two countries after a long disruption following political changes in the Middle East. The Thai Government also presented to the Iranian Government a sum of one million baht in aid for hundreds of thousands of Kurdish refugees fleeing from Iraq into Iran.

The Thai goodwill mission also held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, Deputy Foreign Minister Borujerdi, and Commerce Minister Vahaji with a view to promoting trade cooperation between the two countries. The two sides also sought to revive agreements on economic, trade, science, and technology cooperation concluded by Thailand and Iran last August. A meeting of a joint economic committee was planned but never took place. The two sides also discussed a plan to hold a meeting in June. Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on will head a Thai delegation for meeting with his Iranian counterpart.

Army Sets Up Center To Fight Drug Smuggling

BK1005020591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 May 91 p 6

[Text] Hat Yai—The Fourth Army is to set up an intelligence centre to inform and coordinate government agencies fighting narcotics smuggling along the southern border.

Speaking to a meeting of senior officials from the five southernmost provinces on ways to solve the narcotics problem, Fourth Army Commander Lt-Gen [Lieutenant-general] Kitti Rattanachaya said the centre would help create unity among agencies concerned.

He also proposed that the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) be involved.

It would be the first time ISOC would be involved in narcotics suppression, because its main job is to fight terrorism and communism.

Lt-Gen Kitti also ordered a restructuring of his forces to use some of them in the fight.

The move was necessary because the situation in the five southernmost provinces—Satun, Songkhla, Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani—had deteriorated and was affecting national security, he said.

Lt-Gen Kitti said Muslim leaders who attended the three-hour meeting pledged their support for the Fourth Army and provincial authorities.

They were quoted by the commander as having pledged to help in the fight and also as blaming the government for long neglecting the issue.

Narathiwat Islamic Provincial Committee chairman Rewat Rachamukda had earlier called on the Government to help solve the problem because it is affecting an increasing number of Muslims.

The Office of the Narcotics control board is to hold a seminar on narcotics suppression here in the middle of the month, the first such meeting held by the office for southern officials.

The meeting, which was also attended by the governors of the five provinces, discussed separatism and communism in the South.

Lt-Gen Kitti said there was a political move to put an end once and for all to the movements.

"It will be over within six months," he said.

The meeting also discussed public safety and security, especially of southern teachers.

Lt-Gen Kitti said more police will patrol sensitive areas to protect southern teachers, and local residents will be encouraged to play a bigger role in remote areas.

Vietnam

Do Muoi Interviewed by Soviet Radio, TV

BK0905161791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 May 91

[Report on an interview with Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi by an unidentified correspondent of the Soviet Radio and Television; date of interview not given—read by announcer]

[Text] [Correspondent] Could you, comrades, speak of the situation in Vietnam and the preparations for the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]?

[Do Muoi] Over the past four years, implementing the renovative line laid down by the Sixth CPV Congress, we have had some initial success. The economic situation has been further improved, the grain and food requirements have basically been guaranteed and we have been able to make some rice exports. Commodities have become more abundant, the scourge of inflation has been dispelled, exports have been fast-increasing, and foreign economic relations have been broadened.

These improvements are the overall results of our multisectoral economic policy, our renovation of the production and investment mechanism, discarding the system of subsidy-based bureaucratic centralism, shifting to a market-oriented economy regulated by the state on a macro scale, and promotion of the dynamism and creativity of the grassroots and individual laborers.

One of the lessons learned by us over the past four years of carrying out the renovation is that we have carried out renovation uniformly but with appropriate steps to ensure the sociopolitical stability for economic renovation. We have used changes for the better economically as a basis for achieving sociopolitical stability. We have also broadened social democracy, renovated and consolidated the leading role of the Communist Party, and therefore created favorable conditions for economic renovation.

However, our country is still facing great difficulties and ordeals because of our country's low level of development coupled with nearly half a century of rigorous war. And until now, hostile forces have not yet lifted their embargo policy against Vietnam. The coming Seventh CPV Congress will pass many important documents, including the party's platform and its strategy for socioeconomic development until the year 2000. We affirm that we will continue our policy of renovating the country in all respects and trying to gradually put it into a stabilized pattern of steady development for the ensuing years to create favorable conditions for the renovation undertaking in the country. We are firm in the foreign policy of peace, friendship, and cooperation and will broaden our relations with all nations on an equal and mutually-beneficial basis with priority given to consolidating, strengthening, and renovating the all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union.

[Correspondent] Could you, comrade, give your views on the relations of cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union at present?

[Do Muoi] The Vietnamese people of various generations will eternally be grateful to the fraternal Soviet people for having given their wholehearted support and assistance to our people in their struggle for national independence, unification, and socialist construction. Consolidating and strengthening the traditional relations of friendship and the all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union are our party's and state's stringent policy and also a very important factor for the Vietnamese people's national construction and defense.

At present, the Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation is entering a new phase—the phase of renovation aimed at improving the effectiveness of cooperation in the interests of the two countries. All those agreements on economic and trade cooperations for the year 1991 and on the agreement on shifting the economic and trade relations to a new system signed on 31 January 1991 have opened up prospects for continuing Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation for the period ahead.

For our part, we are determined to satisfactorily honor all our commitments and make our modest contribution to easing the Soviet people's difficulties.

We think that our two countries enjoy ample latent potential for further developing mutually beneficial cooperation.

During our talks with those leading comrades of the Soviet Union, the two sides have strongly affirmed their determination to consolidate and strengthen their relations of friendship and create in-depth changes for the better. We have agreed on many important measures aimed at continuing to renovate our cooperation, notably economic and trade, and scientific and technical cooperation.

We are convinced that by satisfactorily realizing these agreements, we will contribute to improving the results of the cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples.

Soviet Reportage on Do Muoi, Nguyen Moscow Visits

WA0510121691

For Soviet reportage on the visits to Moscow by Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and by General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh see the International Affairs section of the 8 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

City, Provinces Hold Party Congresses

Ho Chi Minh City Congress

BK0905125591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 May 91

["Advance to the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam" feature: Report by station correspondent on 7 May closing of first-round congress of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization—portions recorded]

[Text] After three and a half days of work, from 4 to the afternoon of 7 May, the first-round congress of delegates of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization has closed with fine results. Before bringing you a report on the closing ceremony, you are invited to hear some initial notes of the resident Voice of Vietnam correspondent in Ho Chi Minh City on the work of the congress during its three and a half days'-sitting.

The first thing we noticed was quite obvious: that was the liveliness, openness, sincerity, intellect, and love for the people and the party that prevailed throughout the congress, in its group meetings as well as at the plenary sessions in the conference hall. Despite the arrival of some early seasonal rain, the climate in Ho Chi Minh City remained muggy. However, the working atmosphere at the congress was cozy and relaxing. Yet, the participants showed great frankness and patience in their statements and speeches, in their suggestions, and in their criticisms of the mistakes and shortcomings of the central echelon as well as the localities, including a number of arguments that were not quite correct from some delegates at the congress. The issue of pluralism and multipartism that had been touted in the city by some opportunist and even reactionary elements in and outside the country was also brought up for discussion, but was totally rejected by all the delegates attending the congress of the Ho Chi Minh City's party organization. The congress affirmed: The Communist Party of Vietnam is the sole force leading the Vietnamese revolution in its advance on the socialist path chosen by Uncle Ho and the party. The majority of views maintained that the present names of the party and the country are the pride of the nation and need no revision or change.

Standing out in the statements and speeches made at group meetings as well as during plenary sessions in the conference hall, aside from the ideas contributed to the theory and practice of the draft documents of the seventh national party congress, were highly important and vital issues for Ho Chi Minh City, one of the economic, political, and cultural centers of the entire country. These issues were:

—The role and position of Ho Chi Minh City vis-a-vis the entire country as well as the Mekong River Delta should be clearly defined so that adequate investment may be made for the city from now until the year 2000;

—Education, training, health care, science and technology, culture and art, and security and defense in an urban center as populous as Ho Chi Minh City should receive special attention from the party and state;

—The role and position of finance, banking service, and state- operated economy and in the multi-sector economic production of the period of transition to socialism should be duly emphasized;

—The organization of the party and state apparatus and the training of cadres for the party and state in the current situation must be renovated;

—The problem of land in the rural areas and the right to use land of the peasants in the suburban areas of Ho Chi Minh City must be resolved; and

—Various kinds of taxes including agricultural tax must be revised to avoid multiple taxation in production and business.

Those were the major issues on which the delegates had held lively exchanges of views and debate to ferret out the truth and reason and which will be submitted to the central echelon and the seventh national party congress for consideration, readjustment, and amendment. Such readjustment and amendment should be noted in the resolutions of the seventh party congress for implementation by the entire party and people.

It can be said that the three and a half days' sitting of the congress were days of wholehearted work for the sake of the common cause of the party and nation as well as the city named after Uncle Ho. With a single vote, the congress elected 44 official delegates, five of them recommended by the party Central Committee Secretary to attend the congress and run for election, and four alternate delegates to attend the seventh party congress as representatives of Ho Chi Minh City.

After hearing Comrade Duong Dinh Thao who, on behalf of the congress presidium, read a report summing up the essence of the issues discussed at the first round of the fifth congress of delegates of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization to contribute ideas to the various draft dcouments of the seventh party congress, 100 percent of the delegates voted for the contents of the summing- up report, which would be submitted to the seventh party congress for consideration.

Amid the enthusiastic atmosphere generated by the fine results obtained by the congress after three and a half days' sitting, Comrade Nguyen Vo Danh read a closing speech on behalf of the congress presidium:

[Begin recording] Dear guests of the congress, dear delegates: After more than three days of intensive, active, and serious work, the first round of the fifth congress of delegates of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization is coming to a close today. In a spirit of active and intensive work and with a high sense of responsibility, the congress has heard more than 200 suggestions during its group discussions and 63 statements read or registered to be read at the conference hall. With a forthright and constructive attitude and for the sake of the party's lofty cause and the people's heavy responsibilities, many delegates have made suggestions of both practical and theoretical values, thereby actively contributing to the elaborating of the various draft documents of the seventh party congress. At this congress, many important issues on which lower- level congresses still held different views have been discussed and subject to in-depth study, thereby further raising both their theoretical and practical values.

The congress has adopted the report summing up the suggestions made by the party organization congresses at the grass-roots and next-higher level, and those contributed by the masses to the documents of this congress. The congress has collected the views expressed by each delegate on some important issues on which there are still different opinions concerning the draft documents of the seventh party congress. It has also adopted the report summing up the views expressed by the delegates during their discussions at this congress which has just been presented by the presidium.

Congress, by now I think there is sufficient reason for us to report to our comrades and people in the city that we have accomplished the two tasks set for the first round of the fifth congress of delegation of the city's party organization. [end recording]

After touching on the tasks set for the city's party organization as well as the delegates attending the congress for now until the seventh party congress and the second round of the city's party organization congress, Comrade Nguyen Vo Danh went on:

[Begin recording] On behalf of the presidium, I sincerely thank the comrade delegates from the party Central Committee, the comrade veteran revolutionaries, the comrade members of the previous party committees of Ho Chi Minh City, and the comrade delegates from the central departments and sectors who attended the congress and contributed ideas to it. I wish all of you comrades the best of health. Till we meet again at the second-round congress! The first round of the fifth congress of delegates of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization is now closed. Thank you, Comrades! [applause][end recording]

More on Ho Chi Minh City Congress

BK0705152791 Hanoi VNA in English 1418 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 7—The fifth congress (first round) of Ho Chi Minh City's party organization concluded this morning after three days' sitting. Politically, the delegates unanimously agreed that it is necessary to be steadfast on the way towards socialism chosen for the Vietnamese revolution by the party and Uncle Ho and to reaffirm the party's role of leadership. They held that the [passage indistinct] issues of principle, conforming with the objective law of the Vietnamese Revolution.

Economically, they pointed to the need to complete in a short time the system of laws, to promulgate policies to promote all economic sectors and mobilize their capabilities in national construction. In addition to determining major economic areas, agricultural production in the five years to come must be considered as the primary front which needs to be appropriately invested in order to make firm steps of development and inspire the peasants to maintain and develop their production. Besides, investment priority must be given to the fields of oil and gas, energy, infrastructual construction and consumer goods industries to attain big effects.

Speaking at the congress, Vo Van Kiet, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee, pointed to the dark schemes of imperialism and reactionary forces to abolish socialism in the world, including Vietnam.

The congress elected 44 official and four alternate delegates to the coming Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Ben Tre Provincial Congress

BK0605102591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] The party organization of Ben Tre Province held the first round of its fifth congress from 27 to 29 April with the participation of 352 delegates representing 543 grass-roots party organizations.

The congress focused dicussions on 10 issues on which there still were many different views at the grass-roots party congresses. The land ownership question was the subject of lively debate among numerous delegates. The majority of views unanimously affirmed that land must be placed under all-people ownership as stipulated in the various draft documents of the Seventh National Party Congress. They suggested that the state enact concrete policies on the right to long-term use of land, the right to inherit land, and the right to transfer land ownership to encourage the peasants to engage in production with confidence. Some delegates clearly pointed out that permitting private land ownership will give rise to an exploitative class in the countryside, thereby abolishing the revolutionary gains of the peasantry.

The congress elected 15 official delegates and two alternate delegates to the Seventh National Party Congress.

Dong Thap Provincial Congress

BK1005093091 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] Dong Thap Province held its first round of the fifth party congress on 25-27 April. Delegates contributed many ideas to the three major issues which include the appraisal of party leadership in various revolutionary stages during the 1930-1975 period, the socioeconomic development progam, and the party building task and revision of party regulations.

Delegates debated many issues pertaining to the party leadership; its great achievements, shortcomings, and mistakes. Many delegates suggested that the party should formulate concrete policies on improving the rural areas and agriculture; providing loans and materials to poor peasants, ensuring prices for agricultural products especially rice, improving wages; and promoting investment for the education, public health, and scientific-technological sectors. Many suggested that party members be allowed to engage in private trade in accordance with the law, while some delegates asked that more explanation should be made to clarify the nature of exploitation in the multicomponent commodity-base economy.

The congress asserted that our party is the party of the working class that adheres to the Marxist-Leninist ideology, the party that will continue to develop President Ho Chi Minh's ideology and concepts, improve the socioeconomic situation along the socialist path, firmly defend national independence, build a strong and prosperous nation, and promote a multicomponent economy with various forms of ownership in which state-run economic estabishments play the key role.

The congress elected 14 official and 1 alternate delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Gia Lai-Cong Tum Provincial Congress

BK0505060891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] The Gia Lai-Cong Tum party organization held its first round of the 10th congress on 27-30 April with the participation of 299 delegates representing 21 party organizations of districts and cities of the province.

Delegates expressed hundreds of ideas aimed at pinpointing various important issues and contributing to perfecting the party draft documents. The congress expressed its agreement on the party draft political report, especially the part dealing with efforts to lead the country to advance further.

The ethnic minority groups in the Central Highlands have shared weal and woe with the party and the revolution to advance along the socialist path chosen by our party and Uncle Ho. Moreover, the cadres, party members, and people of the Central Highlands are determined to implement the party renovation cause, resolutely carry out the new economic policy, and strive to perfect the political system, thereby contributing to meeting the requirements of the revolution in the new stage.

The congress contributed many concrete ideas pertaining to the new policy on ethnic minority groups, especially in the Central Highlands. Many delegates suggested that the party and state should provide appropriate budgetary funds for the Central Highlands to strengthen socioeconomic development and consolidate national defense and security tasks, thereby helping the region maintain and develop its strategic position.

The congress elected 14 officials and 2 alternate delegates to attend the upcoming Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Ha Tuyen Provincial Congress

BK0405071891 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Recently the first round of the fifth congress of the party organization of Ha Tuyen Province opened solemnly in Tuyen Quang City. Attending the congress were 292 delegates from 20 party organizations of districts, towns, and equivalent level. Comrade Phan Dinh Dy, Party Central Committee member and secretary of the provincial party committee, delivered an opening speech.

The congress manifested clearly solidarity, democracy, and intelligence. Many delegates proved to have responsibly contributed views to the draft documents of the Seventh National Party Congress. The views asserted determination to continue the party's revolutionary path chosen by Uncle Ho and to successfully build socialism and deny pluralism and multipartyism.

As Ha Tuyen is a mountainous province with many tribal residents, the delegates suggested that the party should have a policy to develop the economy and culture of mountainous regions and should clearly determine the differences of high and low mountainous regions and midlands in order to formulate rational investment plans. The ratio of investment in mountainous regions should be clearly determined in the national budget.

Particularly, the delegates stressed the need to invest in education, eliminate illiteracy, and train ethnic minority cadres in localities.

The congress also approved a resolution on some pressing tasks for the period from the first- to second-round congresses of Ha Tuyen Province.

The congress elected 17 official delegates and 2 alternate delegates representing 30,000 party members in Ha Tuyen Province to the Seventh National Party Congress.

Lam Dong Provincial Congress

BK0805105191 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The party organization of Lam Dong Province held its first round of fifth congress from 21 to 24 April in Dalat City. Some 327 official delegates representing nearly 70,000 party members in all the party organizations attended the congress.

Comrade Tran Kien, party Central Committee member and secretary, and head of the party Central Committee Department of Control, attended the congress. Comrade Nguyen Dinh Tu, party Central Committee member and head of National Energy Institute, was nominated by the party Central Committee to stand for election to the seventh national party congress.

Over the past four days, the congress focused on debating the draft documents of the seventh national party congress. Some 289 delegates spoke more than 300 times on various issues such as the transition to socialism, party building, and socioeconomic development. All the suggestions unanimously agreed with the draft documents of the party Central Committee on the assessment of the situation and lessons learned from experience and transition to socialism in our country.

The delegations also contributed many views to the consolidation and development of state-run economy and the planned economy of commodities which is linked to the regulated large-scale market and the role of large-scale state management in the process of regulating and operationally controlling the commodity economy.

The strategy of personnel training and the human factor in the strategy of socioeconomic development were also matters of debate by various groups in the congress which raised many lively views.

The congress also petitioned the party Central Committee to further debate the strategy of developing mountainous regions and highlands and the major policies toward mountainous regions and highlands at the upcoming seventh national party congress.

The congress elected a 13-member delegation to the seventh national party congress.

Minh Hai Provincial Congress

BK0305134191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The first round of the Minh Hai provincial party organization's eighth congress of delegates was held from 27 to 29 April, with the participation of 350 official delegates representing nearly 18,000 party members in the province.

The congress heard reports summing up the 29,000 views contributed by party members and the people to various draft documents of the seventh party congress, contributed 40 views to a debate at the conference hall and reached a high identity of views on the draft platform and the targets of the economic strategy set forth by the party Central Committee.

The congress also unanimously approved and suggested that the seventh party congress pay attention to various important contents, such as granting peasants the right to use land on a long-term basis, allowing party members to engage in private economic activities, providing additional budgets for the development of the administration at city ward and village levels, and the modernization of the Armed Forces.

The congress elected 15 official delegates and two alternate delegates to the seventh party congress.

Quang Binh Provincial Congress

BK0205155991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The first round of the 11th congress of Quang Binh provincial party organization, which was held 26-28 April, concluded sucessfully. Some 299 delegates representing 37,800 party members of various party chapters and organizations in the province attended the congress.

The 52 views expressed at the congress unanimously agreed with the draft documents of the seventh party congress. They clearly pointed out the necessity of following the path chosen by our Uncle Ho and party to oppose pluralism and multipartyism. Many delegates clarified some issues concerning party leadership and guidance in the recent past, the contradictions of the transitional period, viewpoints on the development of the commodity economy, the renovation of the party's leading procedures, and the problem of party members engaging in the private economy. They then suggested the party Central Committee issue specific guidance.

The central government should formulate satisfactory policies for the state-run economy to really play the leading role in the national economy. More attenttion should be paid to cultural and literary tasks, the press, and mass organizations.

The congress set forth such immediate tasks as concentrating on harvesting 25,500 ha of winter-spring rice, making good preparations for planting the summer-fall rice, carrying out the task of flood and typhoon fighting and control, and successfully leading the anticorruption struggle in the province.

The congress elected 20 official delegates and two alternate delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Quang Ngai Provincial Congress

BK0505090291 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] Quang Ngai Province held its first round party organization congress recently. Attending the congress were Comrades Tran Kien, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and Tran Duc Luong, member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers who have been nominated by the party Central Committee Secretariat to attend the upcoming Seventh CPV Congress.

The congress analyzed more than 70,000 ideas contributed by party organization congresses at the grass-roots level. Delegates debated various issues pertaining to the general lines on socialist construction set forth by the party, on contradictions between socialism and capitalism, and on the nature of the working class and the characteristic of the CPV and so forth.

The congress also asserted its rejection of pluralism and the multiparty system. It also stressed the necessity to strengthen the party building task and the need to expel degenerate party members from the party in order to purify and make it worthy of the confidence and love of the people as well as to implement Uncle Ho's testament.

The congress elected 16 official and one alternate delegates to attend the Seventh CPV Congress.

Quang Ninh Provincial Congress

BK0405103391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] The party organization of Quang Ninh Province recently held the first round of its fourth congress. Since the end of 1990, the party organization of Quang Ninh Province has urgently conducted a broad and profound political drive in the entire province to contribute its views to the party's draft documents.

The congress heard the provincial party committee summarize the views collected from among the party bases, including 813 primary party chapters and 22 district, town, and subordinate party organizations.

The major issues of concern to the delegates in this congress were those related to socialism, the path to socialism, socialist models, trends and contradictions of the era, fundamental contradictions in our country, and so on, and other issues such as socioeconomic stabilization, the assessment of our country's real status, the socioeconomic objectives until the year 2000, the right to ownership, the transitional period, the economic structure, the socioeconomic policies, the appraisal of renovation process, and the party leadership.

The congress animatedly discussed the views from party bases in a constructive, democratic, frank, and open manner. There were a total of 160,000 views, 70,000 of which suggested that the vital issues in the draft documents be modified and added.

The differing views were debated thoroughly and voted on in order to clearly manifest their diversity and to summarize and report them all to higher echelons. Through debate, it could be said that in general large numbers of party members and people had raised a step higher their knowledge to understand more thoroughly the party's renovation viewpoints and to manifest their unanimous agreement with many vital contents of the draft documents.

Many delegates asserted that at a time when the international situation is becoming very complicated and socialism is facing serious challenges, the path to socialism is a long historic course that develops in a devious and complicated way to several standards and under different forms. Yet, it is certain that socialism will recover its vitality.

The socialist path in our country conforms with the development of history. The contents of the draft documents have manifested the will and determination of all our party members and people to persistently follow the path chosen by our party, Uncle Ho, and people.

The congress elected a delegation of 25 official delegates and one alternate delegate to the seventh national party congress.

Quang Nam-Danang Provincial Congress

BK0805043591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 23 Apr 91

[Text] Quang Nam-Danang Province held the first round of its 11th party organization congress on 18-20 April in Danang City with 353 delegates from districts, cities, and units representing almost 43,000 party members in the province.

Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State attended and addressed the congress. He was nominated by the party Central Committee as the Quang Nam-Danang delegate to the Seventh CPV Congress.

Comrade Nguyen Van Chi, secretary of Quang Nam-Danang party committee, delivered the opening speech. Comrade Tran Dinh Dang, on behalf of the congress presidium, reported on the views of cadres, party members, and the people on the party draft documents. The more than 35,000 suggestions from basic party organizations and almost 20,000 views from cadres and people in the province show the wisdom and courage of the people of Quang Nam-Danang, who took the lead in the anti-U.S. war of resistance. These views reassert Vietnam's inevitable path towards socialism as brilliantly chosen by our party and Uncle Ho, and affirms the province's determination to implement the party's renovation.

The congress focused its discussions on the 15 most prominent issues in the party draft documents. These include the timing in formulating the platform on socialist construction, fundamental problems of the era, the transition to socialism, the correctness of the party's general policy; the general and specific objectives of the draft platform, strategy, and political report; the multicomponent economy, and the party's leadership role.

After the discussions, the congress presidium voted on the controversial issues. Delegates finally showed their identity of views on five issues in the party draft documents. However, they brought up the mistake made by our party in formulating the economic policy for the transition, thus showing their concern in the party's general policy. Some delegates also suggested that a supplement be made on certain aspects to pinpoint certain party organizations and individuals who have made mistakes and experienced shortcomings, rather than citing them in general.

Delegates of the minority groups from the mountain districts of Tra My, Tien Phuoc, and Que Son—sites of the revolutionary bases during the two wars of resistance—asserted their loyalty to the party. However, they called for more attention from the central government because they have been neglected in the past.

Speaking to delegates at the congress, Comrade Vo Chi Cong briefed them on some major world events and the contradictions of the era, thereby giving them a better understanding of the contents of the platform. He also analyzed issues pertaining to the transition toward socialism and the party's renovation cause.

Comrade Vo Chi Cong also spent a lot of time working with the provincial party organization to formulate a socioeconomic development strategy for the province and design an appropriate model and steps to be taken according to the province's capability and potential. The province must strive intitially to promote agriculture, forestry, industry, trade, and services to increase its per capita income by three-fold by the year 2000, while trying to produce 600,000 tonnes of grain and food. He urged the provincial party organization to strengthen unity in implementing Uncle Ho's teaching: "Unity, unity, great unity; success, success, great success." He also stressed the great duty of delegates of Quang Nam-Danang to the Seventh CPV Congress and their responsibility to the party organization and people of Quang Nam-Danang.

Thanh Hoa Provincial Congress

BK0205092391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] The first round of the 13th congress of the Thanh Hoa provincial party organization concluded on the 27 April after three days of intensive work. Attending the congress, among others, was Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee.

In a democratic and frank atmosphere, the delegates concentrated their minds on discussing various draft documents of the seventh party congress. Most of the views expressed at the congress agreed with the basic contents of the draft documents, reposed confidence in the socialist path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho, asserted that Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's ethical conception and bearing are the ideological foundation for our revolutionary undertaking and nation, affirmed the party's leading role and organizational principles, and refused to accept pluralism or a multiparty system.

Many delegates profoundly felt that in light of the difficult situation in the country at present, the party must maintain political stability in order to continue the process of renovation. Others, however, suggested that the party further make clear that agriculture is the first and foremost front and solve pressing and immediate problems, including those concerning investment in agriculture, markets for agricultural products, land allocation, the role of cooperatives, policies toward needy peasant families, and manpower and employment.

The congress elected a delegation to the seventh national party congress, comprising 40 official delegates. The election was held in a solemn and democratic atmosphere and in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Australia

Reportage on Visit of Turkey's Ozal Continues

Prime Minister on Award to Ozal

BK0705125791 Hong Kong AFP in English 1111 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Canberra, May 7 (AFP)—Prime Minister Bob Hawke countered critics of Australia's decision to honor Turkish President Turgut Ozal Tuesday, saying Canberra did not condone Turkey's poor human rights record.

Mr. Ozal, due to arrive here Wednesday for an official visit, is to be made an honorary companion of the Order of Australia, the nation's highest honour.

Australia's Greek, Cypriot, Kurdish and Armenian communities have denounced the award, recalling the treatment of ethnic minorities in Turkey and the occupation by Turkish troops of northern Cyprus.

"It's a personal award and it does not indicate in any way that there are no policy differences between Australia and Turkey," Mr. Hawke told parliament.

He said he would raise Australia's criticisms when he meets Mr. Ozal here.

Turkey sent troops to Cyprus in 1974 to protect the Turkish minority there following a pro-Greek coup, but then occupied nearly half the island and has refused to withdraw despite repeated United Nations resolutions.

"Australia has consistently supported the United Nations Security Council resolutions on Cyprus," Mr. Hawke said.

"We have upheld the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, consistently condemning the unilateral declaration of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in 1983.

"In my discussions about important international and bilateral issues with President Ozal I will, of course, raise these and other issues of concern."

Mr. Hawke said Mr. Ozal was being honored for his "distinguished personal contribution to the development of bilateral relations between Australia and Turkey."

Ozal Rules Out Early Elections

TA0805131691 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 8 May 91

[Kandemir Alpan report from Australia]

[Text] President Turgut Ozal spoke to businessmen and reporters aboard a plane from New Zealand to Australia. Asked whether early elections are looming on the horizon, Ozal recalled that the opposition did not accept the proposed form for constitutional amendment and the impartiality of the president, and declared: Elections are not looming.

Replying to reporters' other questions, Ozal reported that he held a telephone conversation with U.S. President Bush from New Zealand and learned that the president is in good health. In response to a question on whether Turkey will adopt any additional measures to secure the return of northern Iraqi refugees to their homes, Ozal noted: As far as I can see, it is all a matter of guaranteeing the security of these people. As long as this is provided, they can return.

Pointing out that it is difficult for the Iraqi Administration to survive, the president remarked that many countries do not seem to be ready to lift the embargo as long as this administration remains in power.

Another reporter asked Ozal if the British soldiers, who maltreated the district official in Semdinli some time ago, are doing guard duty. Ozal responded: As far as we know, they are charged with helping the Americans on Iraqi territory. In actual fact, they cannot do guard duty on our territory. Their role is outside our territory.

On economic issues, the president remarked that the inflation experienced before 1980 and the current inflation are different. Explaining that the urbanization process is taking place at a very accelerated rate in Turkey, Ozal said that this increases the need for investments and credit. He pointed out that currently the world is experiencing rapid technological progress and automation, adding that politicians must also keep pace with this situation. Ozal concluded: If politicians continue to engage in politics according to the old methods without adopting themselves to this change, they will fail. Our politicians are still engaged in pre-1980 politics. Education is so fast that it is difficult to see everything.

Ozal Meets With Hawke 9 May

TA0905185991 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 9 May 91

[Serdar Dimli report from Canberra]

[Excerpt] President Turgut Ozal, who is continuing his official visit to Australia, met with Prime Minister Bob Hawke at the Parliament this morning. Foreign Minister Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin also attended the meeting. Ozal also signed the special book at the Parliament.

Then, official talks began between delegations headed by Ozal and Hawke respectively. During the talks, the sides decided to increase bilateral economic and commercial relations. According to information received from presidential spokesman Kaya Toperi, the two delegations also agreed to collaborate on investments in Middle East and Balkan countries as well as in the Soviet Union.

It was also decided during the talks to invite representatives of the private sector to the joint economic committee meeting, which will convene in Ankara next month. Furthermore, the two sides decided to cooperate in the fields of coal and iron ore commerce, education, technology transfer for the Southeast Anatolia Project, defense industry, and textile production. It was also decided to begin flights between the two countries.

The delegations also agreed to conduct talks with the aim of preventing double taxation and guaranteeing investments. During the official talks, Ozal also briefed Hawke on the Turkish economy, the situation of the northern Iraqi refugees, and the Cyprus problem. [passage omitted]

Talks 'Extremely Satisfactory'

TA0905115491 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 9 May 91

[Kandemir Alpan report from Australia]

[Excerpt] President Ozal attended a luncheon at the National Press Council in Canberra today. In a speech, Ozal said that, with the labor force, machinery and know-how it possesses, Turkey is ready to cooperate with Australia in the Middle East in the field of construction. He said: I am calling on Australian businessmen to go hand in hand with Turkey in exploiting in the best possible manner all cooperation possibilities, to make more investments in Turkey, and to increase bilateral trade. My official contacts in this country have been concluded in an extremely satisfactory manner. I am optimistic about closer economic and commercial ties. I believe that our relations will increasingly develop from now on.

Discussing the developments of the Turkish economy during the past 10 years, President Ozal said that the aim is to reduce the inflation rate to around 14 percent in 1994. He said that Turkey's volume of foreign trade is expected to reach $50 billion in 1994. He added that the balance of current transactions is targeted to show a surplus of $2.2 billion that year.

The president then replied to questions by foreign journalists. Replying to questions in connection with Cyprus, he said that the two communities have been living in separate zones since 1974. He stressed that no confrontations took place between them during that time. He said: We are proposing that a bicommunal and bizonal federal state based on equality and guaranteed by Turkey and Greece be established on the island within the framework of UN Resolution 649, under the auspices of the UN secretary general. If the Greek Cypriots agree to that, there will be no obstacle before the solution of the problem.

Asked what has been done in Turkey in connection with a better human rights record, the president said that after 1983, Turkey signed agreements drawn up by the Council of Europe and the United Nations for improving human rights and for preventing torture. A recent law enacted by the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Ozal recalled, cancels the sentences of numerous convicts. He also pointed out that articles 141, 142, and 163 have been lifted from the Turkish Penal Code. Certain circles who claim that human rights are being violated in Turkey ignore these developments, Ozal said.

After that Ozal visited the Ataturk Garden in Canberra. [passage omitted]

Hawke Hosts Dinner for Ozal

TA1005063391 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 2000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] President Turgut Ozal has concluded his official contacts in Canberra. Kandemir Alphan reports from Canberra:

[Begin Alphan recording] Ozal attended a dinner given in his honor by Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke this evening. In a statement at dinner, Ozal stressed the importance of bilateral relations. Referring to the economic developments in Turkey during the past 10 years, Ozal said that Turkey has also developed its economic and trade relations with countries in its region. He recalled that Turkey has proposed the Black Sea Economic Cooperation project, as well as the water for peace project in a bid to expand those relations.

Also addressing the dinner, Hawke praised Ozal's contributions to bilateral relations. Noting that the highest Australian decoration was given to Ozal for his efforts, Hawke added that Australia welcomed Turkey's contribution to the allied forces during the Gulf war. Ozal will leave Canberra for Sydney tomorrow. [end recording]

Hawke Comments on Cyprus Issue

TA1005083191 (Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in Turkish to Cyprus 1930 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Turkish President Turgut Ozal has said that if the Greek Cypriots reciprocate the constructive efforts of the Turkish Cypriots on the Cyprus question, then it will be easier for the goodwilled efforts of the UN secretary general to yield results.

Ozal, who is in Australia, was addressing a dinner given in his honor by Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke. Ozal said that the Cyprus problem did not begin in 1974 and that it has a 28-year history. Noting that the similarity between the Cyprus and Kuwait problems stems from the efforts of the Greek Junta to annex the island to Greece in 1974, Ozal said that if Turkey had not intervened, the island would have been annexed to Greece. He drew a parallel between Turkey's intervention in the Cyprus annexation and that of the allied forces in the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait.

Pointing out that UN Security Council Resolution 649 constitutes the framework for the Cyprus solution, Ozal added that this resolution stresses the equality of the two communities on the island. He concluded by saying that Turkey will continue its efforts to solve the Cyprus problem in a way that will please both communities on the island.

Also addressing the dinner, Hawke criticized Turkey on the issues of Cyprus and human rights. Hawke, in a statement made as a result of the pressure of the Greek community in his country, said that Australia and Turkey differ on the Cyprus question and added that his country opposes the declaration of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Hawke said that his government favors a solution in line with the efforts of the UN secretary general.

John Hewson, the leader of the Liberal Party of Australia, who spoke in support of the Australian people's views on the issue, said that Turkey and Australia have opposing views on the issues of Cyprus and human rights.

Presidential spokesman Ambassador Kaya Toperi, in a statement afterwards, said that the language used by Hawke and Hewson slightly exceeded diplomatic propriety. Toperi added that Hawke's statement at dinner was probably due to misinformation. He said that despite the fact that such statements are not the rule in countries with diplomatic experience, he got the impression that Hawke felt obliged to make such a statement because of domestic politics.

In a statement to an Australian radio, Toperi said that the language used by Hawke and Hewson was not in line with diplomatic propriety. He added that Australia, being a country that supports the UN Peace Forces, should be more impartial.

Hong Kong Governor Agrees With GATT Stand

BK1005054091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0439 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Melbourne, Australia, May 10 (AFP)—Hong Kong shares Australia's concern about the threat to international trade if the Uruguay Round of GATT talks fail, the governor of the colony, Sir David Wilson, said here Friday.

"What needs to be done is to focus the minds of the larger players on the vital necessity of preserving a non-discriminatory free trade regime," Sir David told the Committee for the Economic Development of Australia (CEDA). He was speaking on the second day of a week-long visit, the first to Australia by a governor of Hong Kong.

Earlier Friday, Sir David met industrialists including Brian Loton, managing director of the mining giant BHP.

Australia enjoyed a trade surplus of 476.6 million Australian dollars (372.46 million U.S.) with Hong Kong last financial year, thanks in part to exports of gold worth 397.6 million (310.72 million U.S.), coal: 99.1 million (77.4 million U.S.) and aluminium: 50.0 million (39.1 million U.S.). But exports of gold to Hong Kong have slumped from more than 1 billion dollars (780 million U.S.) in 1987-88, contributing to a decline in the surplus to Australia.

Sir David reminded his audience that the two countries were important trading partners with similar concerns.

"In Hong Kong, where so much of our economy depends on trade, we are concerned that momentum has been lost" in the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he said.

"I know that in Australia, as leaders of the Cairns Group, you share this concern," he went on, alluding to Australia's demand that the major trading nations cut domestic agricultural subsidies and remove trade barriers.

Last week, the Australian Government failed in high-level talks in Canberra to budge Japan beyond verbal endorsement of its position.

Sir David praised Australia's part in "initiating and cementing economic cooperation" in the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC) and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and said that "Hong Kong looks forward to ratification of its entry as a full member of the PECC at the meeting in Singapore in two weeks' time."

Sir David met Joan Kirner, premier of the State of Victoria, on his arrival here Thursday and was scheduled to meet Chinese businessmen, members of the Chinese chamber of commerce and of the Hong Kong/Australia business association here late Friday. He travels on Sunday to Canberra, where he is due to meet Prime Minister Bob Hawke and members of the government including the ministers for transport, Kim Beazley, trade, Neal Blewett, and immigration, Gerry Hand.

In his speech to the CEDA, a government-supported private enterprise body, Sir David highlighted the "brain drain" as one of the problems facing the colony. Hong Kong had relaxed its immigration rules to allow employers to recuit abroad to help "replace the loss of talent," he said in the speech, entitled "Hong Kong: Challenges for the 1990s."

His unprovocative and uncontroversial speech seemed designed, however, to reassure Australian businessmen and investors. He concluded by emphasising the "continuity of policies, of institutions, of personnel, of public investment and of purpose" during the transition to Chinese rule in 1997.

He described "the remarkable idea of one country, two systems put forward by the Chinese" as more than "a catch-phrase." It was, Sir David, said, "a politically pragmatic way of achieving China's long-desired objective on reunification while preserving Hong Kong as an economic success."

There was, he said, a "little noticed brain drain" from Hong Kong towards China, where Hong Kong's entrepreneurs now employed more than two million people in Guangdong Province alone.

"By moving more labour-intensive operations across the border they have been able to concentrate scarce resources in Hong Kong on more skilled processes and technologically more sophisticated products," he said. He added that "some 50,000 skilled Hong Kong personnel themselves now work in China."

After Canberra, Sir David is due to travel to Sydney, Australia's largest city, where he will wind up his visit next Wednesday and fly to New Zealand.

Current Account Deficit Falls by A$242 Million

BK0605074691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Australia's latest balance of payments figures have just been released. Radio Australia's Melbourne Office says, seasonally adjusted, the current account deficit for March has come in at A$1.2 billion. Our office says this represents a fall of A$242 million, or 17 percent.

Seasonally adjusted, imports fell by 10 percent while there was a rise in exports of 1 percent.

Emergency Relief Budget 'Almost Exhausted'

BK0605074891 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, is asking federal cabinet for extra aid to Bangladesh. The move follows last week's grant of Australian $250,000 in emergency aid for cyclone victims.

A spokesman for Senator Evans denied he was responding to criticism by aid groups which have accused the government of being miserly in its assistance to Bangladesh. According to the spokesman, the full extent of the Bangladesh disaster was not known when the original grant was announced last week. In addition, he said Australia's emergency relief budget has been almost exhausted by a series of disasters, including the Gulf war and the famine in the Horn of Africa.

Fiji

Ex-Opposition Leader on Joining Tribal Party

BK0905072491 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Fiji's former opposition leader, Adi Kuini (Speed) says she is considering joining a new political party being formed by Fiji's traditional chiefs. The former wife of ousted and now deceased Fijian prime minister, Timoci Bavadra, said she will be considering the option while she is living in Canberra over the next 12 months.

Adi Kuini told a radio interviewer she realized the Fiji Labor Party would feel betrayed if she joined the chiefs party. She said that under Fiji's new race-based Constitution, there was no way the coalition of the Labor and National Federation Parties could win power.

Adi Kuini said that in considering her political strategy she was torn between her family ties to the traditional Fijian system and her belief in the ideals of the Labor Party.

[Begin Adi Kuini recording] ... if you want to change the system, you have to be working from within, and that is one reason why I might have to consider that issue seriously—whether to join the Fijian chiefs sponsored party. The difficulties in handling the contradiction in philosophy ... [end recording]

Adi Kuini recently married an Australian businessman, (Clyde Speed), a former media adviser to Fiji's interim prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

Ratu Mara has promised that elections will be held under Fiji's new Constitution by the middle of next year.

Kiribati

Three Parties To Contest in General Elections

BK0805064191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0612 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Suva, May 8 (AFP)—Electoral officers the world over should spare a thought for Francis O'Brien, who on Wednesday was organising 30,000 voters over an area of the Pacific equivalent to one-third of the United States.

Mr. O'Brien is chief electoral officer for Kiribati, which is holding its fourth general election since 1979, when the former colony of the Gilbert Islands won independence from Britain.

Voting for the Maneaba, the one-house general assembly, takes place on 33 islands north and south of the equator and on both sides of the international date line.

As 164 registered voters went to the polls in the smallest constituency, Banaba, on Wednesday morning, booths were also open 3,000 kilometres (1,860 miles) away on Christmas Island, where it was still early Tuesday.

Members of the outgoing parliament formed three groups, but "political parties are a new thing over here," Mr. O'Brien said in a telephone interview from the capital Tarawa.

"It's difficult to say whether the next government will be run strictly on party lines."

The election "has attracted a lot of interest," Mr. O'Brien said, "because of a change in government and president."

Ieremia Tabai, president since 1979, is constitutionally barred from standing for a fourth term, and foreign diplomats in Tarawa said "some people feel it is time for a change of government."

"There are no really contentious issues," one diplomat said by telephone. "This government's main objective is self-reliance and independence and a new government would have to pursue that too.

"Some people in the outer islands feel that they have been neglected and want more emphasis on development. The price of the main export, copra, has dropped and they are looking to alternative cash crops. There is a market for seaweed in Denmark, where it is used in making ice-cream and medicines."

Voters in Tarawa, one of the world's most densely populated cities, are worried about the cost of living.

The last election, in 1987, was flavoured by religious controversy. The Roman Catholic Church, which claims 52 per cent of the population of 60,000 as its adherents, objected to renegotiation of a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union.

The opposition Christian Democratic Party (CDP) attacked the government for establishing diplomatic relations with Moscow and for investing in government bonds in Europe, Asia and Australia.

CDP leader Teburoro Tito and another opposition politician, Tewareka Teutoa of the Kiribati Uniting Party (KUP) are expected to stand in presidential elections in June.

At most four members of the Maneaba may stand for the post of president, who is elected by the people.

Neither the CDP, the KUP nor the National Progressive Party (NPP) which supports President Tabai are organised parties. They have no secretariats nor members outside parliament, and the presidential election is likely to be decided by personalities.

Mr. Tabai has said the NPP enjoys "majority support" but he expects "an open race" for the presidency between his vice-president, Teatao Tennaki and Mr. Tito and Mr. Teutoa.

Diplomats identified two other possible candidates: Minister for Natural Resources Tomati Iuto, and former finance minister Roniti Tewaki, who left office to continue his studies and has since been re-elected as an independent MP [member of parliament].

Although the islands which make up Kiribati are far flung— the nation's maritime area is three million square kilometres (1.2 million square miles)—the largest constituency, South Tarawa, has only 5,288 registered voters and results are expected by Friday.

A record 226 candidates are standing for the 39 elected seats in the 41-member house. And only those who receive 50 per cent of the vote in their constituencies on Wednesday will be immediately elected.

A second round of voting will take place May 15.

Kiribati exports 2.4 million U.S. dollars of copra, biscuits, and furniture a year, while imports stand at 19.9 million dollars.

The trade imbalance is eased with proceeds of five to six million dollars from the 161 million dollar revenue equalisation reserve fund set up by Britain in 1956.

New Zealand

Air Force Making Aid Flight to Bougainville

BK0605074491 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] The New Zealand Air Force has confirmed that it is sending a Hercules transport plane loaded with relief supplies on an unprecedented trip directly to Bougainville island. The Air Force says the plane, on a five-nation South Pacific training mission, left (Winoapae) Air Base near Auckland bound for Cook Islands, Western Samoa, and Vanuatu before going on to Port Moresby.

The Air Force says instead of flying to Rabaul, where relief goods have been piling up awaiting shipment to Bougainville, the Hercules will land at Buka Island on the northern tip of Bougainville. After unloading at Buka Island, the Hercules will head back to New Zealand via Australia.

Bolger, House Speaker Receive CSFR's Dubcek

AU0305155891 Prague CTK in English 1332 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Wellington May 1 (CTK)— New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger told visiting Chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (Parliament) Alexander Dubcek today that there are no obstacles to the development of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries.

He said that New Zealand will do everything to be a good and reliable partner to Czechoslovakia.

On the second day of Dubcek's visit today, both sides emphasized their interest in economic cooperation. Dubcek noted that Czechoslovak exports have declined considerably in the last year and he said that new legislation such as agreements on dual taxation and protection of investments are necessary for mutually advantageous partnerships.

Dubcek also conferred with House of Representatives Speaker Robert Gray, members of the Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees, Foreign Affairs Minister Don McKinnon and Minister of Social Affairs Jenny Shipley.

Gray and Dubcek stressed bilateral interest in the development of all-round relations. Dubcek said that conditions for cooperation with foreign partners already exist in Czechoslovakia.

Gray accepted an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia.

Papua New Guinea

Future Military Aid From Australia Unqualified

BK0305092091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Further Australian military aid to Papua New Guinea [PNG] is to be given unconditionally unlike the four Iroquois helicopters which were recently involved in controversy over the use of gunships on Bougainville.

The Australian defense minister, Senator Robert Ray, said in Port Moresby that there will be no longer any conditions attached to Australian military assistance to the Papua New Guinea Defense Force. Senator Ray was speaking before leaving for home at the end of his visit to Papua New Guinea. Steven Damian reports.

[Begin Damian recording] Before Iroquois helicopters were given to the Papua New Guinea Defense Force during the height of the Bougainville crisis on the condition that they would be used only for evacuation purposes, instead Papua New Guinea Defense Force used them as gunships, thus creating a controversy.

After discussing with Papua New Guinea authorities on this trip, Senator Ray says that further military assistance to Papua New Guinea will be given unconditionally. Senator Ray also (?opposes) Papua New Guinea's intention to diversify its military contacts to Asia. [end recording]

Island Provinces Oppose National Guard Proposal

BK0705081891 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The premiers of the four island provinces in Papua New Guinea have called on the government to abandon its proposal to set up a national guard. In a joint statement, the premiers say they will use whatever means are necessary to prevent national guard units being set up in the islands region should the proposal be approved by government.

The premiers oppose the cost of the scheme, the plan to recruit (?Gurkhas), the military aspects of the proposal, and the possibility that the national guard could be used for political manipulation. They say the government should instead implement the national youth schemes to provide village-based employment programs, (?more) guarantees for business ventures by young people, and subsidies to employers to increase the size of their work force.

Defense Minister on Bougainville Conflict

BK0805073091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0652 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Port Moresby, May 8 (AFP)—Conflict with secessionists on Bougainville island has helped the Army of Papua New Guinea to mature, Defence Minister Benais Sabumei said Wednesday.

The fighting, which claimed hundreds of lives including those of 13 soldiers, exposed the force's weakness and areas for improvement, Mr. Sabumei told Parliament when presenting the defence force's 1989 annual report.

"It is very unfortunate that the Bougainville crisis has brought about many miseries to our nation during the year 1989, but it is part of growing up and maturing into an independent nation," he said.

Fifty-five soldiers were wounded on the island, where the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) declared independence last May, two months after government forces had withdrawn.

"Other developing countries have had their share of the problems and we are no exception," Mr. Sabumei said.

It was also a bad year for defence relations with Australia, New Zealand and the United States, he told Parliament. The report focused on the crisis on Bougainville, which continues despite a peace agreement between the government and the BRA signed in Honiara, capital of the Solomon Islands, in January. Mr. Sabumei said troop deployments on Bougainville stretched manpower resources to the very limit.

The force's strength was reduced in 1989 from 3,231 men to 3,161, comprising 403 officers, 515 warrant officers and sergeants and 2,243 corporals and privates. Most units were below 70 per cent strength, Mr. Sabumei said.

Defence relations with countries other than Australia, New Zealand and the United States, had improved, he said. He said 1989 was a "bad year" for defence co-operation with Australia. Most planned major activities did not eventuate, and in cases where work had started, progress was at a slow pace. Mr. Sabumei attributed this state of affairs to the Bougainville crisis and a riot by soldiers in Port Moresby. The same happened with programs undertaken with New Zealand and the United States, he said.

Mr. Sabumei said Papua New Guinea had already begun exploring ways in which to conduct relations with selected countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). He specifically mentioned Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

BRA Leader on Bougainville Cease-Fire Order

BK1005084091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] The leader of the secessionist rebel group on Bougainville, Francis Ona, has denied ordering a cease-fire. In a statement issued in Honiara, Mr. Ona said news of the cease-fire, as reported broadcast by Radio Australia earlier this week, was not correct.

He said he had not spoken recently to the northern commander of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA], (Peter Barick); who had given news of the cease-fire to the media. (Mr. Barick) had told reporters that Mr. Ona had ordered the cease-fire so he could prepare for talks with the Government scheduled for July.